

NCP News Alert

The Nationally Contracted Products (NCP) Programme: Examination Gloves 6n Nitrile explained...



Background to NCP

NHS Improvement (NHSI) launched the Nationally Contracted Products (NCP) Programme in September 2016. This programme is focussed on delivering efficiencies by aggregating the whole NHS demand and by reducing product variation. NHSI has asked the NHS Business Services Authority and NHS Supply Chain to source these products, using the results of the NHS Clinical Evaluation Team published reports to inform product selection. NHSI expect all NHS trusts to support this national savings programme and will be monitoring the uptake through their price benchmarking tool. They have written to all trusts in this respect please click here for a copy of the letters.

Examination Gloves 6n Nitrile

The Examination Gloves – 6n Nitrile strategy was devised by NHS Supply Chain in collaboration with Mick Corti from The Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust. Due to the current market behaviour and price trends the decision was made to split the total volume into 3 lots to try and maximise savings.

After taking part in an eAuction three suppliers have been awarded:

- ▶ Semperit
- ▶ Medicare Products Ltd
- ▶ Supermax Healthcare Ltd

Supply Chain resilience is essential and as part of the process all participating suppliers have provided assurance as to their capability to supply the national volume before they entered the e-auction.

Quality patient care is paramount. All the awarded NCP products are currently in use within the NHS, and were pre-qualified as meeting the required standards for the NHS Supply Chain frameworks.

Split award

The national stock will be split: 51%, 29%, 20% on a regional basis, therefore the product you will receive is determined by the Distribution Centre which services your trust. The breakdown is shown below:

Summary Information

Category	Examination Gloves Sterile & Surgeons
Sub Category	Examination Gloves 6n Nitrile
Winning Supplier(s)	Semperit, Medicare, Supermax
Percentage split vs regional distribution	Semperit 51% > Bridgewater, Maidstone, Bury and Rugby Medicare 29% > Runcorn and Normanton Supermax 20% > Alfreton
Potential National Savings	£3.9m (9%)
Number of codes to be delisted	286
Launch Date	17 May 2018
Length of commitment	12 months
Is the product currently in use within the NHS	Yes

- ▶ The products of the following 7 unsuccessful suppliers will be removed (delisted) from the online catalogue for the duration of the contract (12 months):
Davis Schottlander & Davis Ltd,
Fannin Uk Ltd,
HPC Healthline Uk Ltd,
Robinson Healthcare Limited,
Unigloves (Uk) Limited,
Shermond (Div Bunzl Ret Sup) and
Williams Medical Supplies Plc.
- ▶ Trust Impact Statements will be available from w/c 9 April 2018.

Price reassurance

There will be one National Price, so each winning product will be provided at the same price to all NHS trusts, regardless of the distribution point or supplier.

Due to significant commodity price fluctuations in this category, commodity trackers have been built into the procurement process which provided the supplier with the reassurance to ensure they offered the lowest possible price at the point of e-auction, eliminating the need to build any risk into their pricing.

By having a National approach to procurement pricing in this way the aim is to provide greater price stability to the gloves market.

Packaging

Those trusts being supplied by the Medicare product will see a difference in the design of the packaging of the winning glove for a period of 3 months whilst some stock is moved through the supply chain.

The winning gloves remain the same as the current product and the packaging itself is also no different, the only (temporary) difference is the printing on the packaging.

No action needs to be taken, but just be aware the outside of the box may differ in appearance and will not have the PPE reference visible.

Next Steps

- ▶ Each trust will receive a Trust Impact Statement, which details the code changes, trust specific savings achieved and the product you will now receive
- ▶ For further information on trust specific savings opportunities or sample requests please contact your Account Manager
- ▶ Review the full list of delisted products and their alternatives and make plans to switch from 17 May 2018.

If you have any further questions or require additional support, please contact your local Account Manager or Customer Service Advisor, or if you have any questions about the Nationally Contracted Products programme, please contact the Operational Productivity team at NHS Improvement on nhsi.procprogramme@nhs.net.

* Anticipated annualised savings figures are calculated following conclusion of the award process and are based on national banded pricing using the last 6 months volumes. Please note these are subject to change after Trust Impact Statements are produced due to further pricing reconciliation. For further details please contact NHS Supply Chain.