

# Understanding Prescription Charges

## PART 4

In this article on the PCSE Drug Statements we will be dealing with Understanding the NHSBSA Referred Back Items and Disallowed Items. It may be easier to download the statement from the PCSE Online portal as an Excel or CSV file.

Header				
D000001	30/06/2023	67335.45		
0	0	69987.7	-2652.25	
Drugs				
Drugs (Dispensing)	Total	67335.45		
Paycode	Descripon	Source		£
DRGD	Dispensing GPs - Cost of Drugs	COM	52719.36	
DRGDPF	Dispensing GPs - Professional Fees	COM	17268.34	
DRGPRX	Prescripon charges collected and remied by GPs - contra	COM	-2652.25	
Quarter Payment Date	01/07/2023			
Number of Forms	3313			
Number of Prescripons	7647			
Number of Items Referred Back/Disallowed	20			
Total Credits	Total	123775.04		
Paycode	Description	Source	Unit Cost	£
DRGD	Basic Prices	COM		48322.94
DRGDPF	Dispensing Fees	COM	228	3504.36
DRGDPF	Dispensing Fees	COM	244.1	1371.84
DRGDPF	Dispensing Fees	COM	222.6	6466.53
DRGDPF	Dispensing Fees	COM	224.2	5925.61
DRGD	VAT	COM		1556.86
DRGD	Advances for Prescriptions	COM	9435	56626.9
Total Debits	Total	56439.59		
Paycode	Description	Source	Unit Cost	£
DRGD	Discount	COM	11.18	5402.49
	Advance No. Charges Item		286	0
	Amt Current Charge Rate		133	1283.45
	Amt Current Charge Rate		63	607.95
	Amt Current Charge Rate		53	511.45
	Amt Current Charge Rate		21	202.65
	Amt Prev Charge Rate		0	0
	Amt Prev Charge Rate		1	18.7
	Amt Prev Charge Rate		3	28.05
DRGD	Advance Recover for	COM		48384.85
DRGD	Previous Interim Amount	COM		0
777777 - DISPEX D				
GP Code	686957			
Employee PM				
Month of Claim	Apr-23			
CTP Payment Date	01/07/2023			
Prescribing/Dispensing (P/D)	D			

Using the above example, Payments made at the end of June 2023, relating to Prescriptions processed during April 23 and sent to NHSBSA at the beginning of May 2023, you can see the **Number of Items Referred Back/Disallowed -20**. This relates to Items dispensed during **April 2023**.

Copies of the Referred Back and Disallowed items are sent to the practice. All Referred back items should be corrected, and the additional information required should be added to the form. All the forms should then be added to the end of month return, so that they can be counted and priced correctly.

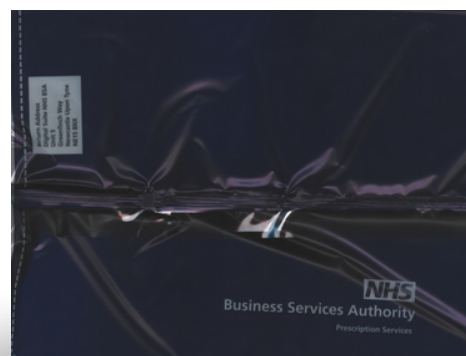
### Referred Back (RB)

Each returned item is assigned an RB code to indicate the RB reason.

The most common reason why an item is returned is due to an incomplete endorsement, where one or more of the following is missing:

- manufacturer or brand name - if not in the Drug Tariff and listed by more than one supplier
- pack size - if more than one pack size is available
- price - if NHSBSA does not hold a price for it

An item could also be returned if too much information is included in the endorsement or conflicting information is endorsed but also if the endorsement is unclear. RBs must be completed and returned no later than 18 months from the date they're first sent to the dispensary. All RB and DA prescriptions will be received through the post.



## PART 4

Each RB item has an RB code listed underneath the image of the prescription. This states why the item was returned and explains what information needs to be completed for the prescription to be processed for payment. You must submit the RBs with your end of month submission.

The top 10 items Referred Back for September 2023 prescriptions (for both pharmacy and dispensing doctors).

NAME	COUNT
1. Hypromellose 0.3% eye drops	17,763
2. Cyanocobalamin 100microgram tablets	3,301
3. Hypromellose 0.3% eye drops preservative free	2,282
4. Cyanocobalamin 1mg modified-release tablets	1,713
5. Olive oil ear drops	1,311
6. Hypromellose 0.5% eye drops	1,287
7. Emulsifying ointment	1,258
8. Artificial saliva spray	1,148
9. Carmellose 0.5% eye drops	1,050
10. Sodium Bicarbonate 5% ear drops	1,037

As you can see, Hypromellose prescriptions were incorrectly prescribed, or not correctly endorsed over 20,000 times in one month! Hypromellose MUST be endorsed with the Brand (unless it is Hypromellose 0.32% strength, as all other strengths are now in Part IX of the Drug Tariff and listed as particular brands. Maybe it is time to Bulk change all your Hypromellose generic prescriptions. Click on this [LINK](#) to see the Brand Comparisons on the Dispex website.

Referred backs for September 2023 prescriptions for Dispensing Doctors only.

## Referred Back totals

Sep-23	EDDR	RB2A	46	RB1B	83	RB1E	48
RB Reason code	Total	RB7	212	RB2C	19	RB5	4
RB1A	5,667	RB2D	81	RB3C	12	RB1D	0
RB1C	1,256	RB3D	431	RB6	2	RB4	1
RB2B	121	RB2E	27	RB3A	3	RB3B	0

A full explanation of the RB codes can be found [HERE](#).

Below are the more common reasons for RBs:

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Referred Back Numeric Reason Codes	
Referred Back Indicator	Referred Back Reason
<b>RB1A</b>	For orders that are not listed in Part VIIIA of the Drug Tariff all of the following endorsements are required: Supplier/Manufacturer, pack size and basic price (excluding VAT). If a formula has been dispensed and any of the ingredients are not listed in Part VIIIA, please supply the above information.
<b>RB1C</b>	For orders that are not listed in Part VIIIA of the Drug Tariff a pack size and basic price (excluding VAT) are required. If a formula has been dispensed and any of the ingredients are not listed in Part VIIIA, please supply the above information.
<b>RB3D</b>	The Appliance order/endorsement is incomplete. The type of Appliance must be present.
<b>RB7</b>	We are unable to determine exactly what was prescribed or supplied. Please supply additional information that will assist us to process the annotated item(s).

**Disallowed (DAs)**

Prescriptions returned marked as 'disallowed' let GP practices know if an item has not been passed for payment. This is because the item is not allowed on an NHS prescription or to be claimed for in a GP practice. Disallowed items are sent back together with the RB items. The DA items will not be paid, even if you correct them. The practice bears the cost of dispensing those items.

Disallowed Totals September 2023

DA Reason Code	Total	DA Reason Code	Total
<b>DA2</b>	<b>263</b>	DA19	21
<b>DA10</b>	<b>1102</b>	DA9	94
DA4	2	DA20	1
DA3	31	DA11	4
DA1	24	DA8	3

The full list of Reasons can be found [HERE](#)

Disallowed Reason Codes	
Disallowed Indicator	Disallowed Reason
<b>DA2</b>	As it is not an appliance or chemical reagent listed in the Drug Tariff (ref. Drug Tariff, Part 1, clause 2 or 3)
<b>DA10</b>	The attached FP10(s) have been disallowed since claims for payment should be made on form FP34D(appendix) in accordance with NHS GMS SFE 16.16.

As you can see, the vast majority of Disallowed items are for Vaccinations which MUST be claimed on the FP34D Bulk Vaccination claim form. Note: Revaxis must be claimed on an FP10 and not the FP34D. This applies to Dispensing and Non-dispensing practices.

Next month we will look at Completing your Bulk Vaccination (FP34D) form correctly.

Thanks to Mark Gibbon and the NHSBSA Prescription Service for supplying information.

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Dispensing Practices



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