

# AN ESSENTIAL STEP TO IMPROVE NHS MARKET ACCESS FOR MEDICINES

## What is it?

*UK PharmaScan* is the prime source of information on new medicines, indications and formulations for NHS horizon scanning bodies across the whole of the UK. It is a database hosted by NHS Evidence and specifically designed to help the NHS plan for the introduction of new medicines and support faster adoption of new medicines by the NHS.

## Who uses it?

- National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Horizon Scanning Centre
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) Topic Selection, Medicines and Prescribing Centre, Technology Appraisal Scoping and Guidance Information Services
- UK Medicines Information (UKMI)
- Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC)
- All Wales Medicines Strategy Group (AWMSG)
- Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Board
- NHS England Specialised Services

## What is it used for?

The NHS needs advance information on new medicines for budget and service planning.

The horizon scanning bodies across the UK deliver reports to enable better:

- National planning: informing processes and timetabling for Health Technology Assessment by NICE, SMC and AWMSG
- Local planning: supporting local budget planning, formulary development and service design
- Development of commissioning policies for new medicines

## Why is it needed?

NHS forward planning for the introduction of new medicines ensures patients benefit early from new medicines and improves uptake. Advance information enables earlier decision-making and budget allocation.

Pharmaceutical companies strive for early and rapid uptake of their medicines. By providing a single source of information to a common format, *UK PharmaScan* ensures high quality and consistent information is available to meet the needs of the national horizon scanning bodies, reducing duplication of effort, and focusing dialogue on interpretation of information and data rather than on the provision of basic factual information.

## What does it mean for your business?

*UK PharmaScan* is a key step in ensuring market access for your new medicines. It enables companies to consolidate the information needed to support NHS budget and service planning according to customers' needs, and enables a systematic approach to synthesising the factual information needed to underpin market access activities.

*UK PharmaScan* allows companies to keep data up to date so that horizon scanning organisations have complete and accurate information available to them and they do not have to get the information from alternative sources.

### Confidentiality

Data entered on your medicines are only accessible to you, *UK PharmaScan* database managers and horizon scanning organisations. All organisations are covered by specific confidentiality provisions in User Agreements and robust security safeguards are in place to control access.

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**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

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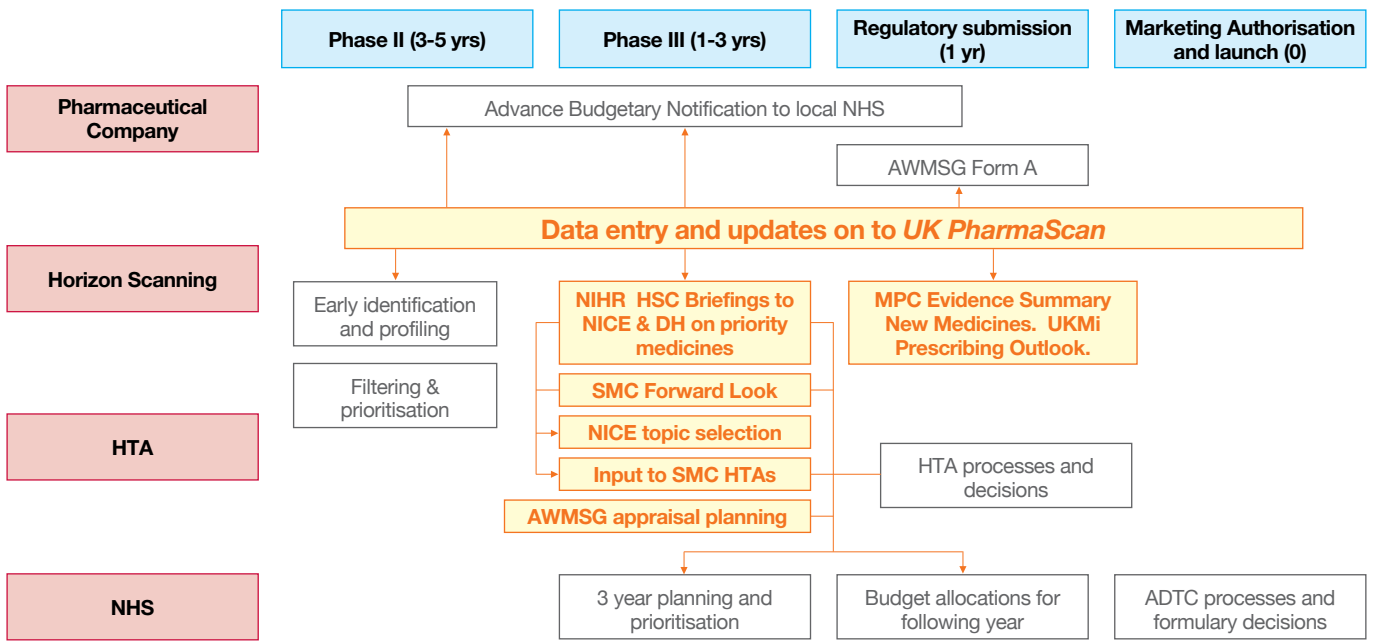
**(DH)** Department of Health

**Llywodraeth Cymru**  
Welsh Assembly Government

**The Scottish Government**

**Northern Ireland Executive**

# Essential component of market access for medicines



## Updating records

Up-to-date information is absolutely essential to horizon scanning users. All changes to regulatory fields must be entered as soon as your company receives the updated information. All other information should be updated every three months.

## What the horizon scanning bodies say

**AWMSG:** UK PharmaScan helps enable the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre to identify new medicines and licence extensions which may meet AWMSG appraisal criteria - the information provided is detailed and easily accessible and enables us to improve the accuracy and efficiency of our horizon scanning process.

**Medicines and Prescribing Centre:** we have used UK PharmaScan to inform topic selection and prioritisation for MPC Evidence Summaries New Medicines, particularly to identify the proposed indication, licensing timelines and published clinical trials.

**NICE:** UK PharmaScan is a vital component to inform and update the planning and scoping of potential topics for guidance production.

**NIHR Horizon Scanning Centre:** we have used hundreds of UK PharmaScan records as the basis for writing outputs. UK PharmaScan is our preferred way of receiving data on new medicines.

**Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Board and Public Health Agency:** we use UK PharmaScan as a vital tool in the development of briefings for presentation to commissioners to facilitate forward planning.

**SMC:** we use UK PharmaScan in the production of our annual horizon scanning report, Forward Look, which informs financial planning for emerging new medicines in all Scotland's Health Boards.

**UKMi:** we use UK PharmaScan to help determine the content of Prescribing Outlook, our annual horizon scanning publication for medicines management and commissioners in primary and secondary care.

## How to register – for details go to <https://www.ukpharmascan.org.uk/static/howtoregister>.

Training materials and a training site, where new and existing users can practise using UK PharmaScan before entering data on the live database, are available.

For companies already registered, the NICE Helpdesk is available to users from 9am to 5pm Monday-Friday to assist with any access and/or technical issues - 0845 003 9183

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