NHS Grampian



condoms service

Distributors Guide

Version 2

Free Condoms – Guide for Distributors

Welcome to the NHS Grampian Free Condoms distribution guide.
This guide outlines how the Free Condoms service operates in Grampian. This resource should be used as a reference tool for distributors, although we encourage access to our Sexual Health Service website www.grampiansexualhealthservices.com for up-to-date information and advice.

Condoms are the most effective way of preventing many sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV. Condoms are also an effective method of contraception when used consistently and correctly.

For information about using condoms visit:
www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/contraception/condoms/

The aim of the service is to make free condoms and lubricant available. The guiding principles of free condom distribution are:

- To reduce unintended pregnancies
- To reduce sexually transmitted infections
- To prevent HIV transmission

Who the service is for

Our free condom service is available to everyone, however we especially encourage free condoms for the following priority groups:

- Gay, bisexual and men who have sex with men (GBMSM)
- Homeless people, and people in temporary accommodation
- Looked after or accommodated young people
- Minority ethnic groups including migrants and asylum seekers
- People affected by gender based violence
- People who are transgender
- People who use substances
- People with learning disabilities
- People with or affected by blood borne viruses - Hepatitis C, Hepatitis B and HIV
- Prisoners and people in the justice system
- Sex workers
- Women with a history of unplanned pregnancy, including abortion/teenage pregnancy
- Young people aged 13-24 years

The NHS Grampian Free Condoms service

- Free condoms can be accessed across a range of sites in Grampian
- There is no requirement for any client registration or to provide any personal details in order to obtain condoms
- Distributors do not have to undertake any detailed monitoring or training
- Condoms can be accessed on limitless occasions
- A range of products is available

Finding a distributor

An interactive map showing locations and contact details for condom distributors is available here
Free Condom Locator - Google Maps

Becoming a distributor

Any organisation that would like to become a distributor should contact gram.freecondoms@nhs.scot

The role of a Condom Distributor is to have available and distribute condoms on behalf of the Free Condoms Service.

Each distributor should:-

- Nominate a lead contact person.
- Notify the Free Condoms Service if the nominated lead changes.
- Reply to email requests from the Free Condoms Service to ensure a high quality service is maintained.
- Deliver the service in line with the service aims and values.
- Know their own existing policies and guidelines in connection to child and adult protection in case they need to raise any concerns.
- Order products as required.
- Keep track of stock and ensure that expiry dates are checked regularly. Out of date stock should be disposed of accordingly.
- Be the first point of contact for the Free Condoms service team
- Promote the service appropriately within their organisation to ensure that all service users are aware of the availability of the Free Condoms Service and are encouraged to use it
- Take responsibility for ordering stock
- Notify the Free Condom Service of any changes to opening times and contact details
- Be aware that their location and contact details will be promoted on the condom service finder on NHS Grampian Sexual Health Services Website

How to order

Contact NHS Grampian Health Information Resources at gram.freecondoms@nhs.scot with your order.
Please note you may need to add our email to your list of 'safe senders' in your email settings as some firewalls may be sensitive to any subject headings used. Delivery is usually within 10 working days. Should you not received your order following this, please contact the NHS Grampian Health Information Resource Services 01224 558504 to discuss your order.

We encourage distributors not to bulk order, this helps us to monitor our distribution levels in addition to helping to reduce waste and prevent 'out of date' stock issues.

Product Guide

Product Name	Description	Additional information
Regular	Latex condom	A non-spermicidal lubricated condom. Length 190mm/Width 54mm. CE Marked. In boxes of 144.
Trim	Latex condom	A non-spermicidal lubricated condom. Length 190mm/ Width 49 mm. CE and BSI 'Kite' Marked. In boxes of 144.
King Size	Latex condom	A non-spermicidal lubricated condom. Length 200mm/Width 60mm. CE and BSI 'Kite' Marked. In boxes of 144.
Sensiva	Non latex condom.	A non-latex condom. Length 190mm/Width 58mm. CE and BSI 'Kite' Marked. In boxes of 72.
Internal condom	Internal condom (previously known as a female condom)	Non-latex, CE Marked. In boxes of 30.
Light lube	Lubricant	Clear, odourless and pH balanced. Easily reactivated by adding a few drops of water or further lubricant. 10ml sachets.

Oral Dam	Thin sheet of latex also known as a 'Dental Dam'	Thin sheet of latex used as a barrier during oral sex. CE and BSI Kits Marked. In boxes of 36 assorted flavours.

Guidance for product use

Instructions on how to use condoms and lube are available here:

https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/contraception/condoms/#:~:text=Condoms%20prevent%20sexually%20transmitted%20infections,become%20pregnant%20in%20a%20year.

There are also a number of leaflets that are available from the NHS Grampian Health Information Resource Services. These can be accessed and ordered via http://www.nhsghpcat.org/HPAC/Index.jsp

Providing condoms to young people under the age of 16

There is no legislation that makes it unlawful to provide condoms to those under the age of 16

The legal age of consent to have sex in Scotland is 16. However, some young people under the age of 16 take part in consensual sexual activity and we have a duty to support them to be safe. It is important that young people under the age of 16 are able to access free condoms in order to prevent HIV, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and unintended pregnancy.

The service makes free condoms available to young people between the ages of 13-15. You should not be providing condoms to young people under the age of 13.

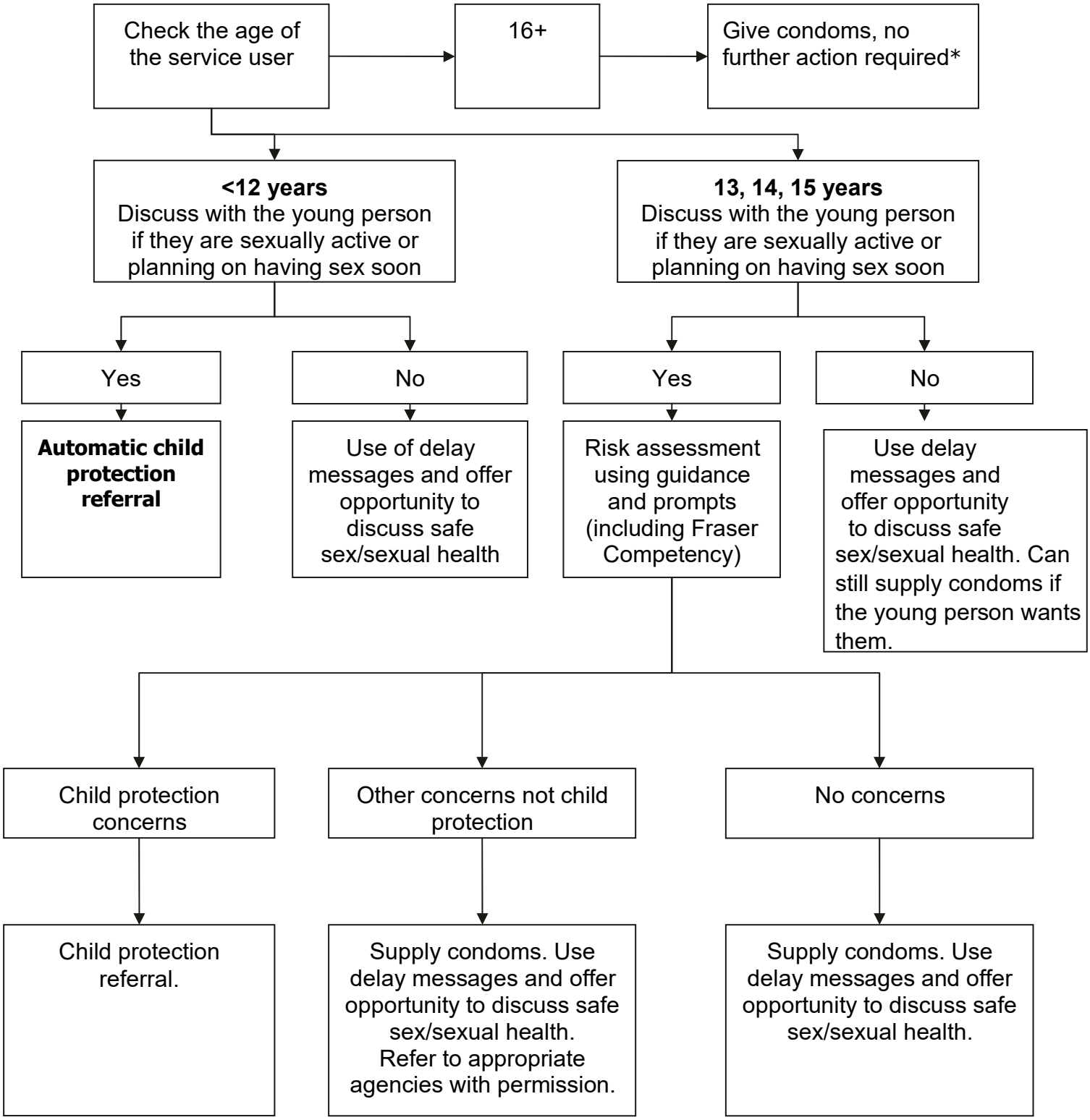
The current legal framework allows professionals working with young people, including those under 16, to provide information about the use of condoms. Similarly, there are no legal restrictions regarding professionals providing sexual health information, advice and support. If your outlet does not have experience of working with young people, you may consider signposting to a local youth service.

If you think there may be a case of abuse or exploitation, then refer to your organisational or local child protection policies and guidelines.

More information on consent and young people can be found here:

https://www.gov.scot/publications/key-messages-young-people-healthy-relationships-consent-resource-professionals-working-young-people/pages/4/

Supplying condoms to young people (under 16 years)



* Action may be required if there appears to be a vulnerable young person aged 16-18 who would benefit from specialist advice from sexual health services or a designated child protection lead.

Risk Assessment

Questions for 13-15 year olds and those who are 18 or under if they are Looked After children (children in care) to exclude child sexual abuse and exploitation.

A child protection concern is not an exclusion criteria for providing condoms, as risk of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections may continue.

How old is the person or people you are having sex with?

If there is an age gap of more than 2 years between your client and the person or people they are having sex with?

Follow local or organisational child protection policies

Have you ever been made to do something sexual that you didn't want to do?	Yes or no?	If the answer is 'Yes', follow your local or organisational child protection policies.
Have you ever been made to feel scared or uncomfortable by the person/s you have been having sexual contact with?	Yes or no?	If the answer is 'Yes', follow your local or organisational child protection policies.
Has anyone ever given you anything like gifts, money, alcohol, drugs or protection for sex?	Yes or no?	If the answer is 'Yes', follow your local or organisational child protection policies.

These questions can also be used for anyone if you are concerned about exploitation or abuse.

For information about protection of vulnerable adults visit:
https://www.nhsgrampian.org/your-health/protecting-people/adult-support-and-protection/

Further information

Local website:
How to book an appointment, locations of sexual health services, sexual health information with links to local and national support groups and national resources and can be found here:
www.grampiansexualhealthservices.com

National website:
National website for sexual health and wellbeing:
Sexual health and wellbeing | NHS inform

Information about Blood Borne Viruses:
Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs) Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV | Grampian Sexual Health Services

Resources

Health Information Resources Catalogue: Order free health promotion posters, leaflets and other resources here:
www.hpac.durham.gov.uk/HPAC//HPACIndex.jsp?sitename=www.nhsghpcat.org

Training

Please visit the links on the Professionals page on our website:
Professionals | Grampian Sexual Health Services

Service evaluation

- As part of ongoing evaluation methods distributors may be asked to complete a short survey or be visited by a representative from the free condom service team.
- The free condom service will be evaluated annually.
- As a distributor, your business type (e.g. pharmacy, GP, school etc) and location will be collected routinely by the NHS Grampian Health Information Resources Service to ensure that the spread of distributors across Grampian is representative and is in line with identified areas of need. In addition, the volume of condoms and the products ordered by each distributor will also be collected.

Service promotion

Location and contact details for condom distributors will be promoted on the condom service finder on NHS Grampian Sexual Health Services Website. Free posters and window stickers are available to order from our resources catalogue.



This publication is also available in other formats and languages on request. Please call Health Information Resources Service on 01224 558504 or email: gram.resources@nhs.scot

Ask for publication MVC 260244

www.grampiansexualhealthservices.com