NHS RESTRICTED			
EPS Prescription Token Specification			
Programme	NPFIT	**Document Record ID Key**	
Sub-Prog / Project	ETP	NPFIT-ETP-EDB-0027.18	
Prog. Director	Ian Lowry	Status	Approved
Owner	Ian Lowry	Version	4.0
Author	Rob Gooch	Version Date	29 July 2008

EPS Prescription Token Specification

Amendment History:

Version	Date	Amendment History
01	31.03.04	Initial draft by the PPA
02	24.11.04	Updated by NPfIT. Requirements for bar coding added. Scope reduced for GP acute and repeat prescribing
03	29.11.04	Review comments from the PPA
04	08.12.04	Updated after PPA/NPfIT meeting (08.12.04). Issued for approval
05	13.12.04	Aligned to ETP Release 2. Updated with minor changes after feedback from PPA. Published to suppliers.
06	12.04.05	Updated with requirements for other prescriber initiatives and repeat dispensing, printing of medication items, overprinting the signature area for digitally signed prescriptions, prescriber address layouts for non-GPs and additional token illustrations
07	06.05.05	Incorporating comments from PPA
08	16.05.05	Additional comments from PPA (13.05.05)
09	26.05.05	Additional comments from PPA (20.05.05)
10	08.08.05	Aligned to ETP Release 2 with use of 18 character prescription identifiers. Issued for approval
11	22.08.05	Comments from Tim Donohoe. Approved
12	14.10.05	Correction to minimum barcode size. Approved
13	25.05.06	Re-branded "EPS Token". PPA now PPD. Approved
14	07.11.06	Removal of content owned and mastered from the PPD website.
15	19.12.06	Formatted to latest NHS CFH document template. New requirements for token description and overprinting within prescriber signature area.
16	30.03.07	Printing requirements for private prescriptions.
17	17.05.07	Review comments from PPD. Approved for publication as v3.0
18	29.07.08	Revised requirements for private prescriptions. Printing of "Page X of Y" retained for electronically signed prescription tokens. Approved for publication as v4.0

Forecast Changes:

Anticipated Change	When

Reviewers:

This document must be reviewed by the following:

Name	Signature	Title / Responsibility	Date	Version
Rob Gooch		ETP Technical Architect	29/07/2008	18
John Whiteside		ETP Technical Architect	29/07/2008	18
Steve Doyle		PPD Business Analyst	16/04/2007	17
Susan Grieve		DH Principal Pharmacist		

Approvals:

This document must be approved by the following:

Name	Signature	Title / Responsibility	Date	Version
Ian Lowry		ETP Programme Director	29/07/2008	18
Paul Stevenson		PPD IT Project Manager	16/04/2007	17

Distribution:

For issue to LSP and existing system suppliers who are engaged with the ETP programme.

Document Status:

This is a controlled document.

Whilst this document may be printed, the electronic version maintained in FileCM is the controlled copy. Any printed copies of the document are not controlled.

Related Documents:

These documents will provide additional information.

Ref no	Doc Reference Number	Title	Version
1	NPFIT-SHR-QMS-PRP-0015	Glossary of Terms Consolidated.doc	

Glossary of Terms:

List any new terms created in this document. Mail the NPO Quality Manager to have these included in the master glossary above [1].

Term	Acronym	Definition
Prescription Pricing Division	PPD	Prescription Pricing Division (PPD), previously known as the PPA, part of the NHS Business Services Agency (BSA)

Contents

1 About this Document

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to identify overprinting requirements for FP10-based stationery to be used with the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) **in addition** to those overprinting requirements defined and published by the PPD (http://www.epact.ppa.nhs.uk/ppa/prescform_overspec.htm).

1.2 Audience

This document has been written for system suppliers.

1.3 Content

This document comprises this following sections / topics.

- Prescription Identifiers
- Overprint Specification
- Prescription Token Illustrations.

1.3.1 Scope

The scope of this specification is to support the second functional release of the EPS, known as EPS Release 2.

The following are **out of scope** for this specification.

- Printing of a 'Dispensing Token' within dispensing scenarios, refer to the document "EPS Dispensing Token Specification" (ref: NPFIT-ETP-EDB-0080)
- Endorsement printing.

1.3.2 FP10 Stationery

Modified FP10 stationery to support the EPS has been in circulation since January 2005. The use of the 0105 stationery (or subsequent later versions) is mandated when printing prescription tokens[1] for the EPS as pre 0105 versions of the prescription forms may cause problems for processing.

The changes to stationery are detailed in the document "FP10 Stationery Changes for ETP" (NPFIT-ETP-EDB-0062).

---

[1] This does not include NHS private prescriptions which can be printed on any stationery.

2 Prescription Identifiers

The token is required to contain the unique Prescription Identifier in a machine readable bar code format and as a human readable character string. The FP10 stationery allows the Prescription Identifier to be printed vertically within the right hand column of the prescription form.

2.1 Requirement for Electronically Signed Prescriptions

For electronically signed prescriptions the Prescription Identifier is an 18 character string with hyphen characters to separate the string into 3 x 6 character blocks.

Example prescription identifier for barcode and string representation:

83C40E-A23856-00123C

Note. When printed as a machine readable bar code on the prescription token, the hyphen separators are included.

2.2 Requirement for Hand Signed Prescriptions

For hand signed prescriptions submitted via the EPS, the Prescription Identifier is a 32 character hexadecimal UUID and requirements are identical to that defined for EPS Release 1.

When represented within systems and in HL7 messaging the UUID must contain additional hyphen characters as defined by the 'datatype' schema within the MiM.

Example UUID for string representation:

34026084-A445-84AD-2D01-97D69ED25865

When printed as a machine readable bar code on the prescription token, the hyphen separators **must be** removed and a check digit **must be** appended to the end of the UUID. The check digit **must be** calculated using a UUID with all non-alphanumeric characters removed (e.g. remove all hyphen and white space characters). Thus the resulting number is 33 characters hexadecimal.

Example UUID for bar code representation (the check digit is 'C'):

34026084A44584AD2D0197D69ED25865C

Note. The document "Utilising Unique Identifiers in NPfIT Systems" (ref: NPFIT-FNT-TO-DSD-0005) defined the specification for UUID's and the additional requirement for ETP that includes a check digit to verify the UUID.

3 Overprint Specification

This section covers the **additional** overprinting requirements for prescribing systems that are required when printing the EPS Token form on FP10-based stationery using EPS-compliant prescribing systems. See the PPD web site (http://www.epact.ppa.nhs.uk/ppa/prescform_overspec.htm) for these specifications.

3.1 NHS Prescriptions

Area	Prescribing Area

Token Description

The token description **EPS TOKEN** shall be printed at the top of the prescribing area when the prescription is electronically signed and non-nominated. The description shall be printed on one line.

The token description **NOMINATED EPS TOKEN** shall be printed at the top of the prescribing area when the prescription is electronically signed and nominated. The description shall be printed on one line.

Where an electronically signed prescription contains information that spans multiple pages of FP10 stationery then the words "Page X of Y" shall be printed after the token description. Where 'X' is the current page number and 'Y' is the total number of pages, e.g. "EPS TOKEN Page 1 of 2".

The text should be Arial [bold] 7.5 to 10pt (the size of the font may need to be adjusted to ensure the text will fit on to the correct number of lines).

The text should be right aligned and there should be a 5mm gap between the last character and the edge of the box.

No token description or page numbering shall be printed where the prescription is a paper FP10 prescription, with or without a printed barcode, and the signature is hand-signed in ink.

Note. Where the PPD require a prescriber/initiative description to be printed at the top of this area, the token description of "EPS TOKEN" or "NOMINATED EPS TOKEN" shall be printed above the prescriber/initiative description.

Area	Right Hand Column

Prescription Identifier Bar Code

The prescription identifier shall be printed in this area.

The bar code shall be a 1 dimensional (1D) Code 128 bar code.

The bar code shall be printed vertically.

The dimensions of the bar code shall be within the following tolerances;

- Width ≥ 8mm and ≤ 12mm
- Height ≥ 55mm and ≤ 68mm

Where possible, the maximum dimensions should always be adhered to.
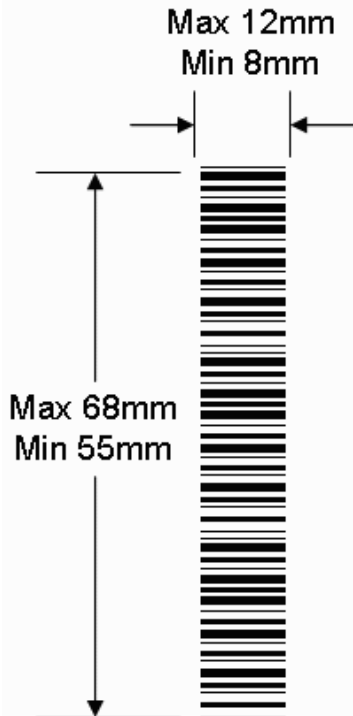

Figure 1 - Bar Code Dimensions

The bar code shall be positioned vertically at least 8mm from the top and bottom of the box in which it appears.

The bar code shall be positioned horizontally at least 1mm from the left and 6mm from the right hand edge of the prescription form area.
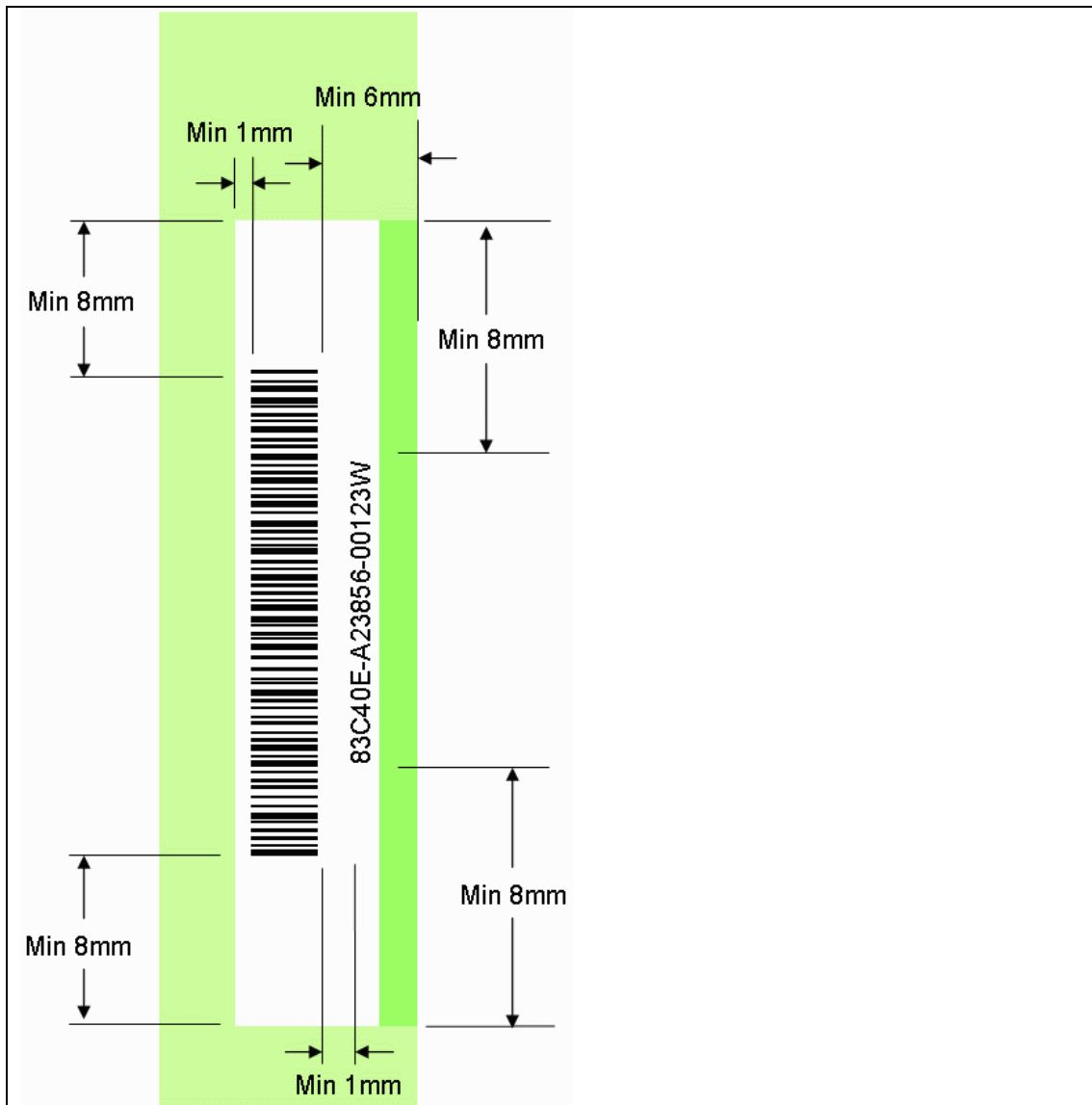
Figure 2 - Positional Tolerances

The bar code shall be printed directly onto the form (i.e. not an adhesive label).

Prescription Identifier Character String

The prescription identifier shall be printed vertically as a human readable text string to the right of the bar code.

The font of the character string should be at least Arial [bold] 7.5pt.

The character string shall be positioned vertically at least 8mm from the top and bottom of the box in which it appears.

The character string shall be positioned at least 1mm from the right of the bar code.

If required, the character string can be printed to overlap the green strip at the edge of the FP10 stationery.

Area	**Signature of Prescriber Area**
Overprinting within the prescription signature area is only required when an electronic prescription has been electronically signed. **Electronically Signed Prescriptions (including Repeat Dispensing Authorising Forms)** The text "PRESCRIPTION TOKEN – Not to be used as a prescription, even if signed by an authorised prescriber" shall be printed within the Signature of Prescriber area.	

3.2 NHS Private Prescriptions

NHS private prescriptions cannot be prescribed via the EPS until they are brought into scope by the Department of Health and communicated to suppliers by the ETP programme.

3.2.1 Printing Requirements for EPS Release 1

The paper NHS private prescription must include the 33 character Prescription Identifier in both barcode and human readable text string format. An indication that the paper must be hand signed should also be printed, i.e. a printed area where the prescriber should sign the prescription.

3.2.2 Printing Requirements for EPS Release 2

If a printed electronic prescription token is required, the token must include the 18 character Prescription Identifier in both barcode and human readable text string format.

The text "PRIVATE PRESCRIPTION TOKEN – Not to be used as a private prescription, even if signed by an authorised prescriber" should be printed on the token.

4 Prescription Token Illustrations

Note. The following illustrations are examples of prescription tokens **without** any of the overprinting requirements required by the PPD. A complete prescription token will require such additional overprinting.
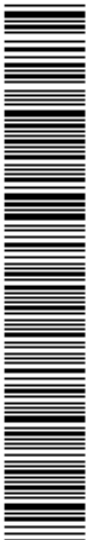
4.1 Token example for a nominated prescription

4.2 Token example for a non-nominated prescription

Pharmacy Stamp	Age	Title, Forename, Surname & Address
	D.o.B	

Please don't stamp over age box

Number of days' treatment N.B. Ensure dose is stated		NHS Number:

Endorsements   **EPS TOKEN**

83C40E-A23856-00123W

Signature of Prescriber

PRESCRIPTION TOKEN – Not to be used as a prescription, even if signed by an authorised prescriber.

Date

For dispenser No. of Prescns. on form

NHS   FP10SS0406

4.3 FP10 for a hand-signed prescription example

4.4 Hand-signed NHS private prescription example, if using FP10 stationery

The following illustration has been rotated for best fit on this page.

4.5 Digitally signed NHS private prescription example, if using FP10 stationery

The following illustration has been rotated for best fit on this page.