



Norfolk and Waveney
Integrated Care Board

NHS Norfolk and Waveney ICB
Medicines Optimisation Team
Floor 8 County Hall
Martineau Lane
Norwich
Norfolk
NR1 2DH

<Date>

Private and Confidential

<Patient Name>

<Patient Address>

Dear <Patient Name>

Prescribing of Gluten Free foods on prescription

The local NHS, Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board, regularly review the medicines and products prescribed to ensure that our local doctors are using the most effective and good value medicines. Prescribing of gluten-free foods at NHS expense has been assessed as a Low Clinical Priority by Norfolk and Waveney ICB and will not be funded unless there are exceptional clinical circumstances.

You are currently prescribed Gluten Free foods; these will no longer be available to you on an NHS prescription in line with local policy.

Gluten-free foods are widely available to purchase e.g., from supermarkets, community pharmacies or via on-line retailers. Coeliac UK (www.coeliac.org.uk) produces a food and drink directory which is available free to members and for £10 when sold.

This position is supported by NHS England as part of conditions for which over the counter items should not routinely be prescribed in primary care. Guidance was published in November 2018.

Any decision to change prescribing is not taken lightly; it is our responsibility to provide the best value for money for all our patients. To meet that duty, we need to make sure we commission cost-effective prescribing which will have the greatest impact on the largest number of people.

Should you require more information about this, please contact the Contact Us Team at nwicb.contactus@nhs.net , they will be able to put you in contact with the

appropriate person.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a final flourish on the right side.

**Dr Andrew Douglass MBBS MRCGP
Specialty Advisor for Prescribing and Elective Recovery
NHS Norfolk and Waveney ICB**