

Glossary of Brexit Health and Social Care acronyms and terms

This document provides a list of commonly-used acronyms and terms as the UK prepares to leave the European Union. This document also provides links to relevant Brexit pages for those organisations. The list is not exhaustive but provides descriptions of the most relevant and frequently-used terms.

A

APPGs	All Party Parliamentary Groups	APPGs are informal groups of MPs and Members of the House of Lords who come together to focus on a specific policy area e.g. the APPG on arts/ health/ social care/ EU Relations etc.
	Article 50	Article 50 allows a Member State to leave the EU and sets out a procedure for doing so. Article 50 provides that the EU and the withdrawing state shall negotiate an agreement setting out arrangements for its withdrawal. The withdrawing Member State will cease to be a member of the EU when the withdrawal agreement comes into force or (if there is no agreement), two years after notifying the EU of its intention to leave, unless the European Council (EU heads of state or government) agrees unanimously to extend the Article 50 period.
AWMSG	All Wales Medicine Strategy Group	The AWMSG brings together NHS clinicians, pharmacists, healthcare professionals and others to develop innovative partnerships that benefit patients and achieve the best outcomes from the use of medicines in Wales.

B

BAEPD	British Association of European Pharmaceutical Distributors	The BAEPD is the industry body that represents 14 of the largest licensed parallel distributors in the UK. These companies represent around 90 per cent of the UK repackaging capacity for parallel imported medicines.
BHA	Brexit Health Alliance	The BHA aims to safeguard the interests of patients and the healthcare and research they rely on during the Brexit negotiations. The Welsh NHS Confederation is an active member of the Alliance.
	Brexit Health Hub	Through the Brexit Health Hub, Public Health Network Cymru looks at Brexit through a primarily social determinants lens, with the aim of informing practitioners about what Brexit could mean for population health and wellbeing in its broadest sense.

C

CC	Cavendish Coalition	The CC is a group of health and social care organisations united in their commitment to provide the best care to communities, patients and residents. The coalition acts as a shared voice which influences and lobbies on post-EU referendum matters. It also provides those leading the negotiations with expertise and knowledge on the issues affecting the health and social care workforce. The Welsh NHS Confederation and NHS Wales Employers are active members.
CTA	Common Travel Area	The CTA is an open borders area between the UK the Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man. Citizens of the UK are not required to carry personal documentation when visiting or residing in any one of these territories.

	Common Frameworks	Common frameworks are the regulatory convergence and harmonisation provided for by EU law, including in areas where EU competence corresponds with devolved competence.
CTD	Clinical Trials Directive	The CTD is an EU Directive that aims to facilitate the internal market in medicinal products within the EU, while at the same time maintaining an appropriate level of protection for public health.
CTR	Clinical Trials Regulation	The CTR is an EU Regulation that harmonises the assessment and supervision processes for clinical trials throughout the EU via an EU portal and database.

D

DExEU	Department for Exiting the European Union	The DExEU refers to the UK Government department of the UK responsible for overseeing negotiations relating to the UK's withdrawal from the European Union and establishing the future relationship between the UK and the EU.
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care (UK)	The DHSC is the part of UK Government that has responsibility for health and social care services in England.
DHSS	Department of Health and Social Services (Wales)	The DHSS is the part of the Welsh Government that aims to promote, protect and improve the health and wellbeing of the Welsh population.

E

EAALC	External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee	The EAALC was established in June 2016 as part of the National Assembly for Wales and is responsible for examining the implications for Wales of the UK's withdrawal from the EU and to ensure Welsh interests are safeguarded for relevant policy, finance and legislation and coordinate this activity across other Assembly Committees.
EAMS	Early Access to Medicines Scheme	Delivered by the MHRA and NICE (see below), the EAMS aims to give patients with life-threatening or seriously debilitating conditions access to medicines that do not yet have marketing authorisation.
ECC(W)	Emergency Co-ordination Centre (Wales)	The ECC(W) is a facility established by the Welsh Government to gather and disseminate information in Wales on developing emergencies.
ECDC	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control	The ECDC is an EU agency tasked with strengthening Europe's defences against infectious diseases. The agency works in partnership with national health protection bodies to strengthen continent-wide disease surveillance and co-ordination between national and public health agencies during outbreaks and emergencies.
EEA	European Economic Area	The EEA unites the EU Member States into an internal market governed by the same basic rules. These rules aim to enable goods, services, capital, and persons to move freely about the EEA in an open and competitive environment known as the four freedoms.
EFPIA	European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations	The EFPIA represents the pharmaceutical industry operating in Europe.

EFTA	European Free Trade Association	The EFTA is the intergovernmental organisation of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland, set up for the promotion of free trade and economic cooperation between its members, within Europe and globally.
EHIC	European Health Insurance Card	The EHIC allows anyone who is insured or covered by a statutory social security scheme of the EEA countries to receive medical treatment in another Member State for free or at a reduced cost.
EHPF	European Health Policy Forum	The EHPF is a multi-stakeholder platform that provides relevant input on European health-related policies implemented or monitored by the Commission's Directorate General on Health and consumers.
EHR	European Health Record	The EHR is a project within the Advanced Informatics in Medicine programme of the European Community. Its objective is to develop, test and promulgate a common architecture for computerised health records across Europe.
EMA	European Medicines Agency	The EMA is an EU organisation which has responsibility for the protection and promotion of public health through the evaluation and supervision of medicines for human use.
EMCDDA	European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction	The EMCDDA plays a vital role in enabling EU Member States to have timely and strategic intelligence and risk assessment of the European drugs market and illicit drug flows, and their implications for public health and security. It also enables Member States to anticipate, identify and respond at an early stage to new threats and developments through an early warning and response mechanism.



EMG	European Medicines Group	The EMG brings together 19 continental research-based pharmaceutical companies. The group works with the NHS, the UK Government and other key stakeholders to develop and sustain an environment where the health and wellbeing of the UK benefits from timely access to medicines.
EMR	Electronic Medical Record	The EMR is the systematised collection of patient and population electronically-stored health information in a digital format. These records can be shared across different health and care settings.
EPIS	Epidemic Intelligence Information System	The EPIS is a web-based communication platform that allows nominated public health experts to exchange technical information to assess whether current and emerging health threats have a potential impact in the EU.
ERDF	European Regional Development Funds	The ERDF is a fund allocated by the EU. Its purpose is to transfer money from richer regions (not countries) and invest it in the infrastructure and services of underdeveloped regions. Wales is the greatest recipient per capita of this fund within the UK.
ERNs	European Reference Networks	ERNs are virtual networks involving healthcare providers across Europe. They aim to facilitate discussion on complex or rare diseases and conditions that require highly specialised treatment, and concentrated knowledge and resources.
ESF	European Social Fund	The ESF is the European Union's main financial instrument for supporting employment in the member states of the EU as well as promoting economic and social cohesion. ESF spending amounts to around 10% of the EU's total budget.

ESR	Electronic Staff Record	As the workforce solution for the NHS, ESR supports the delivery of national workforce policy and strategy. It provides NHS organisations with a range of tools that facilitate effective workforce management and planning; thereby enabling improved quality, improved efficiency and improved patient safety.
ESRC	Economic Social and Research Council	The ESRC is one of the seven Research Councils in the UK. It receives most of its funding from the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and provides funding and support for research and training work in social and economic issues.
ETLR	European Temporary Leave to Remain	The ETLR is a temporary UK immigration status that will allow EU, EEA and Swiss citizens who move to the UK after Brexit to continue living, working and studying in the UK after 31 December 2020. EU nationals would be able to apply to this scheme if the UK leaves to EU without a deal and will provide temporary immigration status to stay in the UK for 36 months from the date it is granted.
EUHSC	European Union Health Security Committee	The EUHSC is the facilitator of the wider network of European collaboration that involves the ECDC. The EUHSC functions as an advisory group on health security on a European level.
EU27 / EU	The European Union 27	The EU27 refers collectively to the 27 Member States of the EU (that is, every EU Member State apart from the UK).
EUSS	EU Settlement Scheme	The Home Office EU Settlement Schemes provides EU citizens and their families with a route to living and working in the UK beyond 31 December 2020.



EC	European Commission	The EC is the executive branch of the EU, responsible for proposing legislation, implementing decisions, upholding the EU treaties and managing the day-to-day business of the EU.
	European Union (Notification of Withdrawal) Act 2017	An Act which conferred power on the Prime Minister to notify, under Article 50(2) of the Treaty on European Union, the United Kingdom's intention to withdraw from the EU.
	European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018	The Act cuts off the source of EU law in the UK by repealing the European Communities Act 1972 and removing the competence of EU institutions to legislate for the UK. The Act provides for a complex mixture of constitutional change and legal continuity. The Act provides legal continuity during Brexit by copying over the entire body of EU law onto the UK's post-exit statute book.
	European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 1) Act 2019	Also known as the 'Cooper-Letwin Act'. This Act provided a one-off legal mechanism by which a majority of MPs could compel the Prime Minister to seek an extension of Article 50(3).
	European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 2) Act 2019	Also known as the 'Benn Act'. This Act of the Parliament of the United Kingdom that required the Prime Minister of the UK to seek an extension to the Brexit withdrawal date— then scheduled for 31 October 2019— in certain circumstances.
EWRS	Early Warning Response System	The EWRS notifies Member States of emerging communicable disease threats and control measures; progression of current epidemics; unusual disease phenomena or new threats from diseases of unknown origin; and proposed mechanisms to prevent and control communicable disease threats. Access is limited to formally appointed contacts in Member States who receive real-time notifications.

F

	Flextension	'Flextension' is a term coined to describe the flexible extensions to the Article 50 period agreed by the European Council meetings of 21 March, 10 April and 28 November 2019.
FMD	Falsified Medicines Directive	The FMD is legislation passed by the EU Parliament which aims to increase the security of the manufacturing and delivery of medicines in Europe. The FMD will come into force in February 2019 and will provide protection to patients from falsified medicines in the legal supply chain of pharmaceuticals.
FoM	Freedom of Movement	FoM, mobility rights, or the right to travel is a human rights concept encompassing the right of individuals to travel from place to place within the territory of a country, and to leave the country and return to it. The right includes not only visiting places but changing the place where the individual resides or works.
FTA	Future Trade Agreement	FTA are when two or more nations agree on the terms of trade between them. They determine the tariffs and duties that countries impose on imports and exports.

G

GAVI	Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation	The GAVI brings together public and private sectors from around the world with the shared goal of creating equal access to new and underused vaccines for children in the world's poorest countries.
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H

H&SC	Health and Social Care	H&SC is the treatment of ill health and medical conditions in hospitals, health centres and in the community. Social care is the care and support of vulnerable people, usually in the community.
HIA	Health Impact Assessment	A HIA is a combination of procedures, methods, and tools by which a policy, program, or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population. Public Health Wales NHS Trust conducted two HIAs that examine the short, medium- and long-term implications Brexit has for Wales and is the only such HIA conducted in the UK.
	Horizon 2020	Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020) – in addition to the private investment that this money will attract. It promises more breakthroughs, discoveries and world-firsts by taking great ideas from the lab to the market.
HSPRG	Health Services and Policy Research Group	The HSPRG provides evidence to inform decision-making and the delivery of high quality health services that are safe and patient-centred. The Group has collaborative projects with primary care academic departments in the UK and primary care research groups around the world.
HTA	Health Technology Assessment	An HTA refers to the systematic evaluation of properties, effects, and/or impacts of health technology. It is a multi-disciplinary process to evaluate the social, economic, organisational and ethical issues of a health intervention or technology.

I

ICD-10	International Classification of Diseases	ICD-10 is the 10th revision of the ICD a medical classification list by the World Health Organisation. Its codes hold critical information about epidemiology, managing health, and treating conditions.
IP	Implementation Period	The IP refers to the period of time between the date on which the UK officially leaves the EU to 31 st December 2020, wherein the UK Government will implement the outcomes secured by the negotiating process. The UK Government has confirmed that EU nationals living in the UK will experience the same rights and guarantees during this period as was the case before the referendum result.

L

LHB	Local Health Board	There are seven LHBs which are responsible for planning and securing the delivery of primary, community and secondary care services alongside specialist services for their areas. These services include dental, optical, pharmacy and mental health services.
LRF	Local Resilience Forum	LRFs bring together all organisations that have a duty to co-operate under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, along with others who would be involved in the coordination of preparations for emergency situations. They have a key role to ensure that preparations are coordinated with all local responders working together on plans to mitigate cross public service risks. There are four LRFs in Wales.



M

MAC	Migration Advisory Committee	The MAC is an independent, non-statutory, non-time limited, non-departmental public body that advises the government on migration issues. MAC is an advisory non-departmental public body, sponsored by the Home Office.
MDCCs	Medical Devices and Clinical Consumables	A medical device is broadly any piece of equipment or technology used when diagnosing or treating a disease (such as mechanical heart valves), while clinical consumables are those items that are to be used or consumed.
MEP	Member of European Parliament	The European Parliament is made up of 751 Members elected in the 28 Member States of the enlarged European Union. Since 1979 MEPs have been elected by direct universal suffrage for a five-year period. There are 4 MEPs which represent Wales.
MHRA	Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency	The MHRA is the UK Government agency responsible for ensuring that medicines and medical devices are safe and fit for purpose. The MHRA contribute to the development of EU-wide initiatives and respond to EU proposals to revise the regulatory environment for health research.
MRC	Medical Research Council	The MRC is responsible for co-ordinating and funding medical research in the UK. It brings together the UK's seven research councils, Innovate UK and Research England.
MRPQ	Mutual Recognised Professional Qualifications	The Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications (MRPQ) Directive provides a reciprocal framework of rules which enables EEA and Swiss nationals to have their professional qualifications recognised in a state other than the one in which the qualification was obtained.

MSAG (Wales)	Medicines Shortage Advisory Group (Wales)	Established by the Welsh Government, the MSAG (Wales) is chaired by the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer. The Group will provide advice to the Chief Medical Officer on the Wales response to shortages, ensuring appropriate Wales-specific intelligence and advice is fed into the Medicines Shortage Response Group (MSRG) and its recommended actions are applied appropriately in Wales.
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N

NAG	National Advisory Group	NAG consists of groups representing organisations from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. With the aim to deepen engagement between government and industry as the future skills-based immigration system is developed.
	NHS Trusts	There are three NHS Trusts in Wales with an all-Wales focus.
NSDC	National Supply Distribution Centre	NSDC is a national contract framework that is intended to make the purchasing of goods and/or services easier across all public services.
NSDR	National Supply Distribution Response (UK)	Established by the Department of Health and Social Care, the NSDR will be available to all health and social care stakeholders in the event of a no deal Brexit. It will receive information from the National Co-ordination Centre, LRFs and details on stockpile levels. It will also be the gateway through which suppliers can access the freight capacity secured by the DHSC and Department of Transport.
NoEs	Networks of Excellence	NoEs were introduced to bring together resources, contacts and expertise from across the EU to enhance Europe's global competitiveness.



	No Deal	This means the UK leaving the EU without a withdrawal agreement.
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O

OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	The aim of the OECD is to promote policies that improve the economic and social wellbeing of people around the world. The OECD provides a forum in which governments can work together to share experiences and seek solutions to common problems.
OTCMs	Over-the-counter Medicines	OTCMs are medicines sold directly to a consumer without a prescription from a healthcare professional.

P

	Preparing Wales	Welsh Government's web page with all the latest information about what they are doing to prepare for a no deal Brexit.
PHW	Public Health Wales NHS Trust	PHW is the national public health agency which works to protect and improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities for the people of Wales.
PSB	Public Service Board	PSBs improve joint working across all public services in each local authority area in Wales. Statutory members of each PSB are: Local Authority; Local Health Board; Fire and Rescue Authority; and Natural Resources Wales.
POM	Prescription-only Medicine	A POM is a pharmaceutical drug that legally requires a medical prescription to be dispensed.
PV	Pharmacovigilance	PV is the pharmacological science relating to the detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of adverse effects of medicines.

R

	Reciprocal Healthcare	If a person from a country with a Reciprocal Healthcare Agreement needs urgent or immediate medical treatment, it will be provided at a reduced cost or, in some cases, free.
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SIs	Statutory Instruments	SIs are a form of legislation which allow the provisions of an Act of Parliament to be subsequently brought into force or altered without Parliament having to pass a new Act.
SOL	Shortage Occupation List	SOL is an official list of occupations for which there are not enough resident workers to fill vacancies. The Migration Advisory Committee regularly reviews the list and calls for evidence of which occupations should be included or removed.
SPF	Shared Prosperity Fund	The UK Government announced a SPF to replace the structural funding that the UK currently receives from the EU.
SSP	Serious Shortage Protocol	The protocols, for use in the event of a serious shortage of a medicine, may give community pharmacies the ability to dispense less, or give a different strength, or pharmaceutical form, or provide an alternative generic product, or provide an alternative product; following appropriate discussions with the patient.


T

TTT	Threat Tracking Tool	The TTT is a database of verified events that is used to detect and assess emerging communicable disease threats.
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W

WA	Withdrawal Agreement	The legal agreement that sets out the terms and conditions applicable to the UK's withdrawal from the EU; drafts of it have been circulating since 2018 and a draft legal text was published on 14 November 2018. The final negotiated text was approved by EU leaders on 25 November 2018.
WAB	Withdrawal Agreement Bill	The Withdrawal Agreement Bill (WAB) is the proposed Bill by which the Government intends to implement the November 2018 Withdrawal Agreement. The Bill has not yet been introduced in Parliament and its future is uncertain given the continued lack of a parliamentary majority in favour of the Withdrawal Agreement.
WNHSC	Welsh NHS Confederation	The WNHSC is the only national membership body which represents all the organisations that make up the NHS in Wales: the seven Local Health Boards, the three NHS Trusts and Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW).
WHO	World Health Organisations	The WHO is a specialised agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health.
WTO	World Trade Organisation	The WTO provides a forum for negotiating multilateral trade agreements. It monitors the application of rules on international trade and settles disputes between its members.

How can the Welsh NHS Confederation help you?

Please get in touch if you want further details on anything highlighted in this briefing. Please contact us at BrexitFAQs@welshconfed.org. You can also visit our website at www.welshconfed.org or follow us on Twitter  [@WelshConfed](https://twitter.com/WelshConfed)

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