

Glossary

ACBS	The Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances. An independent committee of experts that advises Ministers whether certain substances (for example, foods) should be available for prescription by GPs for the treatment of particular medical conditions.
BANS	The British Artificial Nutrition Survey. The annual survey of patients on EN and PN carried out under the auspices of BAPEN .
BAPEN	The British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition.
Beta interferon	A drug used in the treatment of MS . See Appendix 4.1.
CAPD	Continuous ambulatory peritoneal dialysis. A treatment for renal failure. See Appendix 4.1.
Chelation treatment	Treatment with the drug desferrioxamine. See Appendix 4.1.
DoH	Department of Health.
EL(94)94	An executive letter, issued by the NHS Executive in December 1994, concerning commercial approaches to the NHS regarding disease-management packages.
EL(95)5	An executive letter, issued by the NHS Executive in January 1995, concerning purchasing arrangements for high-tech home healthcare services.
EN	Enteral nutrition. The administration of nutrition directly into the gut. See Appendix 4.1.
FP10	The GP prescription form in England and Wales.
Gaucher's disease	A rare condition treated by the IV infusion of enzymes using the drugs Ceredase and Cerezyme. See Appendix 4.1.
HA	Health Authority. A body established by order of the Secretary of State to discharge various responsibilities on his behalf in its area.
HaH	Healthcare at Home Limited. A company established in 1992 to provide high-tech home healthcare services.
HHI	The Herfindahl-Hirschmann Index. A commonly-used measure of industry concentration.
IG	Immunoglobulin. A treatment that supplements the body's natural antibodies. See Appendix 4.1.
IV	Intravenous.
MS	Multiple sclerosis.
NHS Executive	Part of the DoH . Responsible for NHS policy and operations in England, including management of funding. Through its regional offices it monitors the performance of HAs and Trusts .
NHS Supplies	A Special HA . It offers a contracting and purchasing service for HAs and Trusts in England, and UK-wide in respect of a few products.

PINNT	Patients on Intravenous and Nasogastric Nutrition Therapy. A support group for patients receiving EN and PN .
PN	Parenteral nutrition. The administration of nutrition other than to the gut, normally by IV infusion. See Appendix 4.1.
PPA	The Prescription Pricing Authority. A Special HA that is responsible for the reimbursement, on behalf of HAs , of pharmacies for products dispensed against FP10s .
PPRS	The Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme. A voluntary scheme agreed between the Health Departments (ie the DoH , the Scottish Office Department of Health, the Welsh Office and the DHSS, Northern Ireland) and the pharmaceutical industry. It controls the profits of drug suppliers on their sales to the NHS of branded drugs.
Special HA	Special Health Authority. A body established by order of the Secretary of State to perform specific functions on his behalf or on behalf of an HA .
Trust	An NHS Trust. Established by order of the Secretary of State to take over responsibility from an HA or Special HA for the ownership and management of hospitals or other establishments or facilities or to provide and manage hospitals or other establishments or facilities.