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Email:fgccg.medicinesmanagementteam@nhs.net

9 March 2021

Dear Pharmacy Contractor

Guidance around the use of monitored dosage systems(MDS) and issuing prescriptions for MDS

We are writing to reaffirm the guidance around the use of monitored dosage systems and the issuing of prescriptions across the Fareham and Gosport and South Eastern Hants CCG footprints.

This guidance is supported by the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) and Local Medical Committee (LMC) who represent community pharmacy and general practices across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

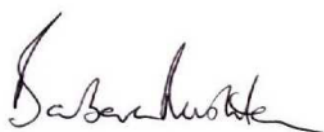
In summary:

- For a reasonable adjustment, such as provision of an MDS, to be made at the NHS' expense, the patient must be eligible under the criteria set out in the Equality Act 2010. A provision within the overall sum has been made in the national pharmacy contract to fund a reasonable adjustment within the criteria of the Equality Act 2010.
 - The decision about the quantity supplied on a prescription is made by the prescriber
 - The decision about the appropriate reasonable adjustment is made by the supplying pharmacist after discussion with the patient, if they qualify under the Equality Act 2010.
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- **7-day prescriptions should only be provided when there is a clear clinical need to restrict supply of medications to a patient. These prescriptions should be dispensed and supplied on a weekly basis.**
- All MDS supplies should be provided against 28-day prescriptions as a maximum, due to the limited stability of medications when repackaged in this way. These prescriptions should be dispensed and supplied in accordance with the period of treatment indicated by the quantity prescribed.
- Patients that do not qualify for MDS under EA legislation are not funded for this provision by the NHS. The pharmacy may offer various adjustments as a private, chargeable service for these patients.
- **7-day prescriptions should not be used to fund MDS provision for patients that do not have a clinical need to receive their medications weekly.**

If you have concerns around adherence to the above guidance please report via email to the Fareham & Gosport and South Eastern Hants CCG medicines management team at fgccg.medicinesmanagementteam@nhs.net

Regards



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Clinical Chair
South Eastern Hants CCG



Jason Peett
Locality Director
Medicines Optimisation



Deborah Crockford
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