

Care About Medicine

Providing information, support & Guidance on managing medicines safely and effectively in a social care setting

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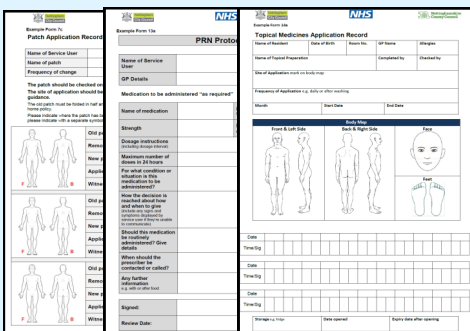
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UPDATED Guidance for the Management of Medicines in Social Care Establishments

The Guidance for the Management of Medicines in Social Care Establishments has recently been reviewed and updated.

The document has been updated to include changes to legislation and continues to share best practice in relation to managing medicines safely. It also continues to offer a host of templates which can be adopted or used to improve current in-house templates.

We are pleased to announce that the guidance has now been approved locally by NHS Nottingham & Nottinghamshire ICB, Nottingham City Council and Nottinghamshire County Council and can be accessed via our website [here](#) or you can email us to request a full copy or specific aspects of the guidance (see over the page for contact details).



Patch Administration

It is important that all staff receive adequate training in the application of patches and have been proven competent to undertake the task before doing so. Important points to note:

- Disposable gloves should be worn when removing or applying patches
- Ensure old patch is removed before applying new one (a thorough search of body and surrounding area should be undertaken if unable to locate).
- Once removed the old patch should be folded in half and disposed of in a denaturing kit, clinical waste bin or returned to supplying pharmacy.
- A patch chart (see below) must be completed each time a patch is applied/removed. It should indicate the date and position of the patch. Manufacturers instructions should be followed on site rotation.
- If a patch is a controlled drug (CD) it should be administered by two medicine trained staff members, one to administer and one to witness correct administration/documentation.
- It is important that staff check daily that the patch is still in position (this is particularly important for those patches that are not applied on a daily basis).

Patch Application Record

Name of Service User			
Name of patch		Strength	
Frequency of change			
<small>The patch should be checked on a daily basis to make sure it is still in place. The site of application should be rotated in accordance with the manufacturer guidance. The old patch must be folded in half and stuck together before disposal, in accordance with the care home policy. Please indicate where the patch has been applied using a cross (x). If more than one patch is in use please indicate with a separate symbol, e.g., o. Remember to complete the MAR chart</small>			
	Old patch removal date	Time	
	Removed by		
	New patch applied date	Time	
	Applied by		
Witnessed by			
	Old patch removal date	Time	
	Removed by		
	New patch applied date	Time	
	Applied by		
Witnessed by			
	Old patch removal date	Time	
	Removed by		
	New patch applied date	Time	
	Applied by		
Witnessed by			

Winter Pressures - Contacting NHS 111 for medicine related issues

There has been a significant rise in the number of care homes contacting 111 due to missed doses, late medicines or to request a further supply. Please consider the following:

- If a resident has missed a medicine or been given their medicine late consider contacting a pharmacist in the first instance. You can contact any pharmacy for advice (it does not have to be the pharmacy that provides your monthly medication). There are a number of pharmacies that open extended hours (see list below).
- When contacting a pharmacy or NHS 111 (as last resort) ensure that you have the following information to hand:
 - name of medicines missed
 - directions including time last dose was given and when next dose is due
 - any symptoms
- If the missed medicines are due to medicines not coming out of hospital with the resident, contact the hospital in the first instance to get this resolved (residents should be discharged with 14 days medication).
- If you have a resident coming to the home for respite care ensure that they have a good supply of medicines prior to arriving. Ensure that the medicines are in date and short dated expiries, once opened, have not been reached.
- Ensure you have a robust ordering process and audit trail so you can track those medicines ordered, through to those medicines received. A medicines communication book is recommended to ensure follow up of any medicine requiring ordering/chasing. It is important that a stock check is undertaken prior to ordering and at regular intervals throughout the month.

Pharmacies with extended opening hours

- * Tesco Pharmacy (Bulwell, Top Valley, Beeston, New Ollerton, Hucknall, Mansfield)
- * Queens Pharmacy Centre (Aspley)
- * Well Pharmacy (Bilborough, Stapleford)
- * Sherwood Late Night Pharmacy
- * Midnight Pharmacy (Radford)
- * Hyson Green Pharmacy
- * Day Night Pharmacy (Clifton)
- * Westdale Pharmacy (Mapperley)
- * Asda Pharmacy (Arnold, Mansfield, Sutton in Ashfield, Newark)
- * Medina Chemist (Netherfield)
- * Boots Pharmacy (Southwell, Mansfield - St Peters retail park, Newark - Northgate retail park, Retford - Primary care centre)
- * My Local Chemist (West Bridgford)
- * Radcliffe Day & Night Pharmacy (Radcliffe on Trent)
- * Rosemary Street Pharmacy (Mansfield)
- * Orchard Pharmacy (Mansfield)
- * Oakwood Pharmacy (Mansfield Woodhouse)
- * Worksop Pharmacy (Prospect place & Bridge Street)

Reminder

Please ensure all medicines are sent into hospital with the resident. This includes routine admissions and emergencies. This improves safety and ensures continuity of care. Please ensure an up to date copy of the MAR chart, with numbered pages, is included too.



EPS - Nominated Pharmacy

Where appropriate please ensure residents are set up for EPS (Electronic Prescription Service) with an appropriate nominated pharmacy even if they are not on any regular medication. It is also important that this information is updated for new residents.

There have been a couple of incidents locally where patients did not receive prescribed items as they didn't have a nominated pharmacy. If residents don't have a nominated pharmacy any prescriptions will either revert to paper or will sit on the spine until pulled down by the pharmacy.

It is also important that if care homes are awaiting an acute prescription, the supplying pharmacy is made aware.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this newsletter is accurate at the time of publication

If you need any further information on medicines management please contact us as follows:

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