

# Care About Medicine

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

***Issue 11 - November 2024***

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## **Medicines Management Audit Visits**

We have nearly completed this year's round of quality monitoring visits to domiciliary care agencies. Thank you for your continued commitment and eagerness to improve medicines quality and safety within social care.

We are now planning 2025 visits and will be introducing slight changes. On the whole, visits will be via arranged appointments but there may be occasions when an unannounced visit will be required. This may be due to a quality or safety concern, or if we are struggling to contact you.



We are also altering timescales for when we would like the 'medicines management review action plan summary & feedback form' updated and returned to us. For routine visits we would like them returned within one month of the visit date. For priority and revisits, returned within two weeks of the visit date. Hopefully these changes won't impact much on the current process but will assist us to improve medicines management across the ICS.

We hope you will be happy with these new arrangements going forward. Any questions please contact Lisa Ryley ([lisa.ryley@nhs.net](mailto:lisa.ryley@nhs.net)) or Tania Cook ([taniacook@nhs.net](mailto:taniacook@nhs.net))

## **Opportunity to participate in a University Research Study**

### **What is the study about?**

Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences are developing a website to identify products that help older people who have visual and/or hearing impairment/loss to manage their medicines.

The website will be for Health and Social care Professionals, Older People with Sensory Impairment, and carers and family members of older people with visual and/or hearing impairment/loss. To ensure that the website is designed and presented in an accessible and user-friendly manner for all users, we are inviting participants to help develop and test the website and review the type of content to include.

### **Who do we need?**

- health and social care professionals including charity representatives,

- people aged 65 years or older who live in their own home
- people aged 65 years or older who live in their own home and who have visual and/or hearing impairment/loss
- formal or informal carers of older people with sensory impairment, for example, adult household members, family, friends.

### What will they do?

Participants will take part in up to 3 sessions.

- one introductory meeting (up to 60 minutes)
- two workshops (up to 3 hours in total i.e. maximum of 90 minutes each)

These can be group workshops or 1-to-1 meetings either in-person or online (your preference). During each session participants will test and review a draft website and will be asked for opinions on its ease of use, content, as well as areas for improvement.

Participants will be eligible for a gift voucher for participating in the study. If you are interested in participating please contact [david.kernaghan@strath.ac.uk](mailto:david.kernaghan@strath.ac.uk) or [margaret.watson@strath.ac.uk](mailto:margaret.watson@strath.ac.uk)

### Reminder – Time Sensitive Medicines

Time sensitive medicines are those that need to be given or taken at a specific time or where a minimum time interval is required between doses.

Common examples include

- Medicines for Parkinson's Disease
- Medicines that contain paracetamol
- Insulin
- Antibiotics

Incorrect timing can reduce the effectiveness of the medicines and increase the risk of side effects or harm to the resident. It is important to record the actual time medicines administered for all time sensitive medicines.

### Safeguarding Reporting

When reporting a safeguarding to the relevant organisations please copy Tania Cook ([taniacook@nhs.net](mailto:taniacook@nhs.net)) into all medication related safeguarding referrals. Tania can support your service through the process and offer helpful guidance.

### Update of Managing Medicines for Adults Receiving Social Care in the Community e-learning courses

PrescQIPP will be updating and relaunching their 'Managing Medicines for Adults Receiving Social Care in the Community eLearning courses in Spring 2025.

PrescQIPP have advised us that the courses will no longer be free of charge. They do, however, offer accredited training at a very reasonable price.

Once the courses are relaunched PrescQIPP will give two months' notice to those individuals who are enrolled and have yet to complete the current course to encourage them to complete before the course is retired.



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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Tania Cook – Pharmacy Technician Services Manager – email: [taniacook@nhs.net](mailto:taniacook@nhs.net)

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