

Pharmacy & Medicines Directorate

Medicines Management
Westholme
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ABERDEEN
AB15 6LS



Date: January 2024
Your Ref: Policy_CareHomeWaste/1445
Enquiries to: Medicines Management Team
Email: gram.medicinesmanagement@nhs.scot

Dear Care Home Manager,

Management of Medication/Medical Appliances Ordering Processes in a Care Home Setting

Please find enclosed information pertaining to the management of medication/medical appliances for care home residents. This reminder is for care home managers and others involved in the ordering and management of residents' medication/medical appliances.

NHS Grampian Primary Care Prescribing expenditure is currently exceeding budget predictions. Prescribing volumes (number of prescriptions) demonstrate an ongoing increasing trend, there are multiple complex factors that contribute to this. The current rate, volume and cost of prescribing is not sustainable at this level, which is in excess of the Prescribing budget allocations. We all have a collective responsibility to ensure that our stretched resources are used appropriately for the population of Grampian.

Care home prescribing and ordering represents one of many areas where there is an opportunity to ensure that robust medicines management processes are in place. This will maximise the efficient use of NHS resources and minimise waste.

As such, care home managers and others involved in the management of residents' medication are asked to review and discuss the information contained within this brief. Take this opportunity to review current processes, consider improvements and undertake actions to ensure efficient systems are in place.

Any queries relating to the management of medication/medical appliances, please speak to your medication provider/community pharmacy in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Lesley Coyle', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Lesley Coyle
Associate Director of Pharmacy