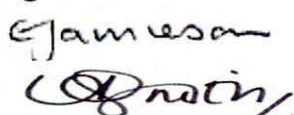



NHS Grampian Guidance For Prescribing and Dispensing Stoma Appliances In Primary Care

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Policy Statement:

It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that they are working to the most up to date
and relevant guideline, policies, protocols and procedures.

Version 4

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Executive Sign-Off

This document has been endorsed by the Director of Pharmacy and Medicines
Management

Signature:  _____

Replaces:

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NHS Grampian Primary Care

Revision History:

Revision Date	Previous Revision Date	Summary of Changes (Descriptive summary of the changes made)	Changes Marked* (Identify page numbers and section heading)
September 2024	November 2022	Removal of CSCNS abbreviation and replaced with appropriate Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.	Throughout
		Removal of contact details at start of document.	Page 4
		Removal of background information.	Page 4
		Section 3 – removed and information included in other sections of document.	Page 6
		Issuing Prescriptions for Stoma Appliances (new section 2) updated information and wording throughout.	Page 4
September 2024	November 2022	Request For Stoma Appliances Not Included On Patient Repeat Slip (new section 3) updated information and wording throughout.	Page 5
		Following sections have had update to information and wording throughout: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Issuing Prescriptions for Stoma Appliances (new section 2)• Request For Stoma Appliances Not Included On Patient Repeat Slip (new section 3)• Changes To Existing Patients With Prescriptions For Stoma Appliances (new section 4)• New Patients With Prescriptions For Stoma Appliances (new section 7)• Community Pharmacy Dispensing Prescriptions Of Stoma Appliances (new section 8).	Page 4 Page 5 Page 5 Page 6 Page 7

Revision Date	Previous Revision Date	Summary of Changes (Descriptive summary of the changes made)	Changes Marked* (Identify page numbers and section heading)
		Patient/Carer Ordering Prescriptions For Stoma Appliances – new section and linked to Patient Information Leaflet.	Page 3
		Appendix 1 – update to detail and converted to table format.	Page 8
		Appendix 2 – new appendix	Page 9 - 12
		Appendix 3 – update to wording and format of PIL.	Page 13
January 2025	September 2024	Appendix 2 - Update to formulary products.	Page 9 - 12

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NHS Grampian Guidance For Prescribing and Dispensing Stoma Appliances In Primary Care

1. Aim

This document aims to provide guidance on appropriate stoma appliance ordering, prescribing and dispensing to ensure the delivery of safe, timely, clinically appropriate and cost-effective stoma care.

Given the individuality of stoma care this document aims to ensure primary care teams, prescribers and community pharmacy contractors have the necessary information to support stoma patients/carers while ensuring clinical appropriateness and compliance with NHS Grampian prescribing guidance and formularies.

2. Issuing Prescriptions For Stoma Appliances

Only stoma appliances recommended by an appropriate NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse Team* should be added to a patient's repeat slip for ordering. To prevent waste quantities prescribed should be in line with details in [Appendix 1](#) and [Appendix 2](#).

A patient information sheet to support patients/carers in the appropriate ordering of stoma appliances can be found in [Appendix 3](#).

Stoma appliances which are not on a patient's repeat slip should not be added to patients' repeat slips or prescribed, unless these are requested by a NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.

Prescriptions for stoma appliances should be issued on separate forms to other items requested by a patient, i.e. medication. This will avoid problems if the patient chooses to use a dispensing appliance contractor (DAC)** for their stoma appliances and a community pharmacy for their medication.

If a patient chooses to use a DAC, care must be taken not to send the right hand side of any prescriptions to the appliance contractor (as they contain confidential patient information, i.e. list of other repeat medicines).

Unless there are exceptional circumstances and only at the request of a NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse Team, prescriptions should not be provided retrospectively for stoma appliances which have already been issued to the patient. This is of particular importance where a prescription is requested for an item which is not on the patient's repeat order slip.

*NHS Specialist Stoma Nurse Teams are based in ARI (Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire), Moray, Orkney and Shetland.

**A dispensing appliance contractor (DAC) is a third party supplier of prescribed appliances

In the event of a replacement / reprinted prescription being requested by a stoma appliance supplier, thorough checks should be undertaken to ensure the missing prescription has not been issued and that it is cancelled prior to a new prescription being issued. This should be documented in the patient's notes.

3. Request For Stoma Appliances Not Included On Patient Repeat Slip

Prescribers should not deviate from Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendations without checking suitability of any new products for individual patients, including switching to alternative brands/formulations of prescribed products. [Appendix 1](#) provides a summary of stoma appliances which are allowable for prescribing within NHS Grampian.

Requests by patient/carers or a DAC for changes to stoma appliances or for additional stoma appliances which are not on the repeat list should not be authorised.

DACs may offer patients free samples of stoma appliances. If the patient perceives these products to be required they should discuss their requirements with their Stoma Specialist Nurse who can in turn, if clinically appropriate, request ongoing prescribing. Where a patient requests a product which is non-formulary, prescribing will not be requested.

4. Changes To Existing Patients With Prescriptions For Stoma Appliances

Changes to patients' stoma appliance requirements should only be made following the request from a member of an appropriate Stoma Specialist Nurse Team. Updates from the Stoma Specialist Nurse Teams will be sent to patients' GP practice via email or clinical note.

Any patient or DAC request for changes or additions to a patient's reorder slip should be declined to ensure clinical appropriateness and compliance with NHS Grampian Stoma Appliance formulary and Stoma Specialist Nurse recommendations. It is recommended that prior to making amendments to stoma appliance repeat slips the origin of the request is checked.

5. Referrals and Queries To Stoma Specialist Nurse Teams

The Stoma Specialist Nurse Teams provide expert advice and support for stoma patients. Referrals should be sent via email to the patients Stoma Specialist Nurse.

Queries regarding patient or DAC requests to amend or add to patient stoma appliance order list should not be referred to the Stoma Specialist Nurse Team. These queries should be checked against the NHS Grampian Stoma Accessory Formulary ([Appendix 2](#)). Off-formulary requests will not be approved by Stoma Specialist Nurse Teams.

Queries regarding stock availability of products and alternatives should not be referred to Stoma Specialist Nurse Teams without first clarifying supply/stock information with the appropriate manufacturer.

6. Patient/Carer Ordering Prescriptions For Stoma Appliances

Patients and carers (including care home staff) can choose to receive stoma supplies in one of two ways:

- From a nominated community pharmacy
- From a dispensing appliance contractor (DAC)

Regardless of the route of supply, the ordering principles outlined in the Stoma Patient Information leaflet should be adhered to ([Appendix 3](#)).

7. New Patients With Prescriptions For Stoma Appliances

All newly discharged stoma patients will be supplied with a minimum of two weeks supply of stoma appliances from hospital stock.

All newly discharged stoma patients will be provided with an 'ostomy appliance record' which will be sent via email to the patients GP practice.

Patients will be made aware that:

- They have the choice of having their stoma appliance prescriptions supplied from either a local community pharmacy contractor or a dispensing appliance contractor (or a dispensing doctor practice, if applicable).
- They should discuss the usual turnaround time for prescriptions with their chosen supplier to allow ample time for ordering repeat supplies (this may differ depending on choice of dispensing contractor).

The Stoma Specialist Nurse Team will provide the patient's GP practice with a list of products being used. Practices should use the list provided to update the patient's repeat prescription list and provide the patient with a copy of the items that can be ordered on repeat prescription. Information provided will include:

- Name and type of product
- Manufacturer
- Product code/product order number
- Pack size
- Suggested quantity required each month (please note that this may alter as the stoma becomes established).

When issuing prescriptions, the product code can be entered under "Drug Name". This helps to ensure that the correct product is selected. On VISION, "#" should be entered before the code number. If no quantity is stated on the prescription request, please refer to [Appendix 1](#) for suggested quantities.

For new stoma patients, practices should be aware that products are subject to change as the patient's stoma 'stabilises'. Prescribed quantities should be altered to reflect this and minimise waste. Consider setting up patient recall to review prescribing quantities after stoma has settled.

All changes to stoma requirements will be communicated to a patient's GP practice via email or Clinical Note.

There may be some occasions when a patient who is newly discharged from hospital will require products quickly and may need frequent product requests. Stoma Specialist Nurse Teams will liaise with GP practice regarding these patients until the stoma stabilises.

8. Community Pharmacy Dispensing Prescriptions Of Stoma Appliances

Stoma appliances should not be supplied before the pharmacy contractor is in receipt of a valid prescription.

In exceptional circumstances, a community pharmacy may dispense urgent supplies of stoma appliances before receiving a prescription at the request of a prescriber or Stoma Specialist Nurse Team (with the prior permission of the prescriber). In such circumstances the prescriber must undertake to provide a prescription to the contractor within 72 hours. Alternatively, in urgent situations when the prescriber is unavailable, the community pharmacy contractor may supply stoma appliances under the National [Unscheduled Care](#) Patient Group Direction (when conditions of Patient Group Direction are met).

Due to the individuality of stoma appliances it is imperative that every effort is made to ensure patients maintain an adequate supply of all stoma appliances. Where a community pharmacy contractor is unable to source a prescribed product before the patient's supply runs out (and have confirmed with the product supplier that there is a true out of stock situation, i.e. phone the manufacturer to confirm) they should contact the patient's Stoma Specialist Nurse Team who will offer a temporary alternative. Community pharmacists should not recommend an alternative without consultation with the patient's Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.

Community pharmacists should not request additional or different stoma appliances on the patient's behalf. Any request should be referred back to the patient's Stoma Specialist Nurse Team to ensure formulary compliance and clinical appropriateness.

9. Responsibilities for implementation

Organisational:	Chief Executive and Management Teams
Corporate:	Senior Managers
Departmental:	Heads of Service/Clinical Leads
Area:	Line Managers
Hospital/Interface services:	Group Clinical Directors
Operational Management Unit:	Unit Operational Managers

Appendix 1 - Stoma Pouch Prescribing Guidance

It is recommended that a maximum of one month supply is made until a patient's stoma is stable. Once stable a two-month supply may be prescribed.

All pouches should be delivered with wipes and disposal bags by the supplier as a matter of course and these items do not need to be ordered separately.

Type	Details	Suggested monthly order quantity
One Piece Closed Pouches	Pouches can be changed up to 2 to 3 times daily.	30 – 90 pouches
One Piece Drainable Pouch (including urostomy pouches)	Pouches can be changed every 2 to 3 days, or daily if preferred.	30 pouches
Two Piece Closed Systems (involving a base plate and pouch)	Most two piece closed systems require separate orders for base plates (also known as flanges or wafers) and pouches. Base plates are usually left in place for 2 to 4 days. Pouches can be changed up to 2 to 3 times daily.	15 base plates 90 pouches
Two Piece Drainable System (involving a base plate and bag)	Most two piece drainable systems require separate orders for base plates (also known as flanges or wafers) and drainable bags. Base plates are usually left in place for 2 to 4 days. Pouches can be changed every 2 to 3 days, or daily if preferred	15 base plates 30 pouches
Night Bags	Used for one and two piece urostomy systems, changed daily.	30 bags
Non sterile non-woven gauze swabs	Used to clean the peristomal skin. 200 swabs should be sufficient for the majority of stoma patients. Exceptions may include high output stoma or patients with more than one stoma.	200 swabs

Appendix 2 - Stoma Accessory Formulary and Prescribing Guidance

The use of (and appropriate quantities of) stoma accessories will be advised on an individual patient need basis by the NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.

Product Type	Recommended for prescribing in NHS Grampian	Formulary recommendation	Indications / Justification	Maximum monthly order quantity
Adhesives (discs, washers, sprays or solutions)	Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendation only		Adhesive products should only be used following recommendation from a NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse.	N/A
Adhesive paste	Yes	1 st : Salts Stoma Paste (70g) (Salts Healthcare) 2 nd line: Hollister Adapt Paste (60g) (Hollister)	Adhesive paste should only be prescribed following recommendation from a NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse.	Advised by specialist
Adhesive strip paste	Yes	Brava Coloplast Strip Paste (10 strips) (Coloplast)	Adhesive strip paste should only be prescribed following recommendation from a NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse.	Advised by specialist
Adhesive remover spray	Yes	1 st line: Lift Plus 360 Medical Adhesive Remover (50mL spray) (Opus) 2 nd line: Dansac EasiSpray adhesive remover (50mL spray) (Dansac)	These products are not indicated for all patients, they may have a role in preventing skin damage when an appliance sticks firmly to the skin.	2x 50mL sprays per month
Adhesive remover sachets	No	Do not prescribe	When adhesive remover is required a spray should be prescribed as this is the most cost effective form of adhesive remover.	N/A

Product Type	Recommended for prescribing in NHS Grampian	Formulary recommendation	Indications / Justification	Maximum monthly order quantity
Adhesive remover wipes	No	Do not prescribe	When adhesive remover is required a spray should be prescribed as this is the most cost effective form of adhesive remover.	N/A
Bag covers	NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendation only		Help reduce bag irritation and discomfort resulting from the feel of the bag on the skin and bag noise. With many newer products being opaque the requirement for bag covers is reducing therefore these are not routinely prescribed.	Advised by specialist
Barrier cream	Yes	1 st line: Sorbaderm Barrier Cream (28g pack) (H&R Healthcare Ltd) 2 nd line: LBF Barrier Cream (30g) (CliniMed Ltd)	Barrier products should only be used a maximum of twice a week and discontinued when the skin has healed. They can cause skin sensitisation and overuse can also lead to the stoma bag being unable to adhere to the skin.	Advised by specialist
Barrier film	Yes	1 st line: Cavilon No Sting Barrier Film Foam Applicators (3M Health Care Ltd) 2 nd line: Sorbaderm No-Sting Barrier Film Spray (H&R Healthcare Ltd)	Barrier products should only be used a maximum of twice a week and discontinued when the skin has healed. They can cause skin sensitisation and overuse can also lead to the stoma bag being unable to adhere to the skin.	Advised by specialist
Belts	NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendation only		Belts can be used to secure stoma products to the skin. Not all stoma products are suitable for a belt.	Advised by specialist

Product Type	Recommended for prescribing in NHS Grampian	Formulary recommendation	Indications / Justification	Maximum monthly order quantity
Deodorant (sprays and sachets)	No	Do not prescribe	Where a patient feels a deodorant is required they should be advised to purchase an ordinary personal deodorant / household air freshener	N/A
Filters/Bridges	NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendation only		Removable filters are becoming obsolete but are still used with some older products. Prescribing should only be undertaken following request from a member of the NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.	Advised by specialist
Hernia Support Belts	NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendation only		Hernia support belts may be suitable for some patients, recommendation to prescribe would be made following assessment by a member of the NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.	Advised by specialist
Irrigation/Wash-out Appliances	NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendation only		Irrigation is only suitable for patients with an end colostomy and should only be undertaken following request from a member of the NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.	Advised by specialist
Medicated Powder	Yes	1 st line: Orahesive powder (25g) (ConvaTec Ltd) 2 nd line: Brava Ostomy Powder (25g) (Coloplast Ltd)		Advised by specialist
Non sterile non-woven gauze swabs	Yes	Maximum quantity of 200 swabs per month	Used to clean the peristomal skin. 200 swabs should be sufficient for the majority of stoma patients. Exceptions may include high output stoma or patients with more than one stoma.	200 swabs

Product Type	Recommended for prescribing in NHS Grampian	Formulary recommendation	Indications / Justification	Maximum monthly order quantity
Protective Shields	No	Do not prescribe	No prescribable guards have been deemed suitable by the NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team. Patient should be advised to purchase if they feel required.	N/A
Stoma Caps/Dressings	NHS Grampian Stoma Specialist Nurse Team recommendation only		Used to cover the stoma but have no actual capacity. Can be used on a colostomy during the day when the stoma is “quiet” or “inactive”. They should not be used with an ileostomy due to the high activity of this type of stoma.	Maximum 30 caps per month
Stoma underwear	No	Do not prescribe	There is no good, peer reviewed evidence to support the use of stoma specific underwear.	N/A

Appendix 3 - Stoma Appliance Ordering – Patient Information Leaflet

The following information is intended to support patients and carers in the management of their stoma appliance prescriptions. Stoma appliances are your stoma pouches and additional accessories that may be required for your stoma care.

Any queries regarding your stoma appliance should, in the first instance, be directed to your Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.

How do I get my stoma appliances?

You/your carer have the right to decide where your stoma appliances are dispensed. This can be from a nominated community pharmacy, dispensing doctor (where available) or from a third party supplier (commonly known as a dispensing appliance contractor).

Any stoma appliances recommended by your NHS Stoma Specialist Nurse Team will require a prescription. Prescriptions are issued by your GP practice.

How will my GP practice know what products I need?

Your Stoma Specialist Nurse Team will make your GP practice aware of all your stoma appliance requirements this includes any changes to your requirements.

How do I order my prescriptions for stoma appliances?

Patients/carers are responsible for ensuring prescriptions for stoma appliances are ordered and provided to your chosen supplier.

Prescriptions for stoma appliances should be requested from your GP practice a minimum of ten days in advance of products being required to ensure ample time for prescription to be sent to pharmacy/dispensing contractor. It is advised that you/your carer discuss the usual turnaround time for prescriptions with your chosen supplier to allow ample time for ordering repeat supplies.

You should not order in excess of two months' supply at any one time.

Can I order a new/different stoma appliance?

Any requests for stoma appliances not included on your order list/repeat slip will not be authorised by your GP practice.

Any decision to supply additional/different stoma appliances will be made dependant on clinical need and will be done in collaboration with your Stoma Specialist Nurse Team.