

Instalment Prescriptions for CDs: Updated Home Office Wording



OVERVIEW:

Prescriptions for Controlled Drugs which are supplied in instalments must contain specific wording to allow supply in advance of public holidays or where the patient has failed to collect part of an instalment. In response to concerns about the lack of flexibility with existing arrangements, the [Home Office](#) has recently published updated sets of wording which are shorter and aim to improve patient safety. Being shorter, it is possible that these could be incorporated into prescribing systems.

One or more sets of the new sets of wording can be used to ensure the prescriber's intentions are clear.

- Please dispense instalments due on pharmacy closed days on a prior suitable day.
- If an instalment's collection day has been missed, please still dispense the amount due for any remaining day(s) of that instalment.
- Consult the prescriber if 3 or more consecutive days of a prescription have been missed.
- Supervise consumption on collection days.
- Dispense daily doses in separate containers.
(This wording has never been routinely used in Scotland and relates to packaging fees in England. In Scotland, the container allowance is included in the global sum. Container fees are not paid as a separate item. This is separate from instalment fees which are based on the prescriber's directions.)

Note that the previous Home Office approved wording can still be used as long as the prescriber's intentions are clear. Prescriptions with the previous wording should be dispensed as usual where legally compliant and there are no other concerns about supply.

One significant change is that instalments can now be supplied on a **suitable day** prior to closure; not specifically the day immediately prior to closure. For a Monday closure, a patient who normally receives a three day supply on a Friday can now be supplied with the Monday dose on the Friday, if suitable.

It is not for use to cover normal weekend closing, but instead for closure during normal contracted hours of service. Pharmacies that are only open for reduced hours on public holidays may supply on a normal working day in advance at the discretion of the pharmacist.

The prescription must state separately both the dose and the instalment quantities as per the examples on the right.

Please note this wording must be used for any schedule 2 or 3 CD supplied in instalments, not just methadone / Suboxone®.

Mrs Mickey Mouse
22 Main St
unknown Drymen

KA15 2EB

0806666226

Methadone 1 Mg/ML Oral
solution 'CD'
Send <1400> one thousand,
four hundred ml
Label Dose 100mL daily;
supply 100mL daily, 200mL
Saturday. Please dispense
instalments due on pharmacy
closed days on a prior
suitable day. <Supervise
consumption on collection>
If an instalment's collection
day has been missed, please
still dispense the amount due
for any remaining day(s) of
that instalment.

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09.12.2015

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Mr Jones Morgan
EMIS Blue Surgery

Mrs Mickey Mouse
22 Main St
unknown Drymen Stirling

KA15 2EB

0806666226

Mst Continus M/R tablets 10
mg 'CD'
Send <56> fifty six tablet
Label Dose 1 tablet twice
daily; supply 14 tablets each
Tuesday. Please dispense
instalments due on pharmacy
closed days on a prior
suitable day. <Weekly>
If an instalment's collection
day has been missed, please
still dispense the amount due
for any remaining day(s) of
that instalment.

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Document approved by
CDAON Executive Group
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