

When patients leave your GP practice to register at another ... do you **cancel** their outstanding Electronic Repeat Dispensing (ERD) issues?

Have you ever considered ...

1. What happens if a patient changes their GP practice and they have remaining ERD issues on your practice Emis Web system?

Very few GP practice teams realise that if patients change their GP surgery and have outstanding ERD issues which have not been cancelled, then it is they who will be footing the medication bill from their practice budget *and* have clinical responsibility for the patient taking them.



If a prescriber has issued an ERD prescription and that patient is removed from the practice list before the expiry of all issues of the prescription, the prescriber must:

- Electronically **cancel** all outstanding issues of electronic repeat dispensing prescriptions via their prescribing system;
- **Contact the dispenser** if any issues of an ERD prescription have been downloaded and **request they are returned to the NHS Spine** as not dispensed;
- **Cancel** the issues via the prescribing system once they have been returned to the NHS Spine electronically then **End the course** to archive the therapies
- **Notify the patient** that their ERD prescription is no longer available from the nominated dispenser.

2. What happens if the prescriber changes GP practice with outstanding ERD prescription issues?

If a prescriber has issued an ERD prescription, and the prescriber then changes GP practice **before** the expiry of all issues of the prescription, and the prescriber and the responsible party are the same person, **the prescriber must electronically cancel all outstanding issues of the ERD prescriptions via their prescribing system.**

They must also contact the dispenser if any issues of an ERD prescription have been downloaded, to request they are returned to the NHS Spine as not dispensed. They are then automatically cancelled, and the patient record updated. The GP practice should then manage the re-prescribing of the patient's medication

In the current system prescribing cost is associated with the prescriber and their registered location. This means that if the prescriber moves GP practice, the prescribing costs associated with an electronic repeat dispensing will move with them, even if the patient doesn't.

All EPS Release 2 prescriptions require the electronic signature of the prescriber and contain details of both the prescriber and the responsible party; this may be the same person. It is the responsible party that is associated with the prescribing costs budget. This means that for staff such as GP registrars, locums and trainees, the responsible party should be set as a permanent prescriber to avoid this problem.

The above scenario therefore only applies when the prescriber and responsible party are the same person.