**Change from ScriptSwitch to OptimiseRx – September 2023**

**What is happening?** - practices across Greater Preston and Chorley & South Ribble will be changing to a new prescribing decision support software tool known as OptimiseRx

**What does OptimiseRx do?** - OptimiseRx is a decision support software tool that is embedded into the EMIS Web system and combines evidence-based best practice, safety and cost-effective prescribing messages in real time at the point of care. Medicines Optimisation teams have full control over which messages are presented with the aim to use the software to support local messages from the teams and to support prescribers with:

**Medicines Safety**

**Best Practice e.g. supporting appropriate anti-microbial prescribing**

**Formulary – i.e. identifying medicines that are Black, Red or Amber within Lancashire and South Cumbria**

**Cost-Effectiveness – e.g. opportunities to select a cost-effective alternative to be chosen**

**When will this happen**? - the current software in place in practices, Scriptswitch, will cease to trigger on prescriber’s computers from the 1st September 2023. **Practices will be asked to deactivate Scriptswitch and activate OptimiseRx on the 4th September 2023. Full guidance on the deactivation and activation processes will be provided in further communications which will be shared with practices just before the go live date.**

**What training is available for user’s of OptimiseRx** - messages appear on screen in similar way to Scriptswitch. For those prescribers who are already familiar with Scriptswitch, use of OptimiseRx should be intuitive and shouldn’t require any additional training. For any practice wishing for additional information this can found [here](https://www.bigmarker.com/first-databank-uk/Introduction-to-FDB-OptimiseRx) in this 20 minute training video or in the training guide attached to this tip. Full support and advice is also available in the usual way through your local Medicines Optimisation team contactable on 01772 214302.



**What else do I need to know ?**

* In order to activate OptimiseRx practices require a code known as a GUID code which will be shared by Medicines Optimisation colleagues prior to the go live date.
* It is not possible to have two different types of decision support software running at the same time so Scriptswitch needs to be deactivated prior to activation of OptimiseRx.
* **Deactivation and activation needs to be undertaken by someone in the practice with ‘administration rights’ for the practice system. The activation process only needs to be completed once on one computer at the practice. This will activate OptimiseRx for all users who have prescribing rights within the practice including any branch surgery. (Practices are reminded that it is good practice to ensure that prescribing rights should only be available to appropriately trained clinical members of staff)**
* For laptops to be activated ensure they are plugged in at the practice on the day of activation. If laptops are not available on the day of activation they can be activated separately with the same GUID code.
* Following activation practices will be provided with a test scenario so that it is possible to check the system has been set up correctly.
* The practice clinical system should continue to work as normal during the activation process but in order to minimise disruption practices are advised to avoid completing activation at a busy time of the day