

Prescribing tip for information

Headline Message

Advice for optimising Emis medication screen information and use of different prescription types

Please see the medication screen of a dummy patient on Emis as a reference for the following suggestions:

Acute
A Nitrofurantoin 100mg modified-release capsules One To Be Taken Twice A Day, 6 capsule Linked Problems - Suspected UTI (urinary tract infection)
Repeat
B Spiriva 18microgram inhalation powder capsules (Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd) Inhale The Contents Of One Capsule Once Daily, At The Same Time Of Day., 30 capsule Linked Problems - COPD - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Repeat dispensing
C Amlodipine 5mg tablets One To Be Taken Each Day, 28 tablet Linked Problems - Hypertensive disease
Variable use repeat
D Paracetamol 500mg tablets One To Two To Be Taken Every 4-6 Hours Up To Four Times A Day, 100 tablet Linked Problems - Rheumatoid arthritis
Variable use repeat dispensing
E Salbutamol 100micrograms/dose inhaler CFC free One Or Two Puffs To Be Inhaled Up To Four Times A Day, 1 x 200 dose Linked Problems - Asthma, COPD - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
Hospital
F Methotrexate 2.5mg tablets 2.5mg (One Tablet) To Be Taken Weekly On A Monday, 0.001 tablet Linked Problems - Rheumatoid arthritis

Acute – For one off medication courses only. If a patient requests a further supply, then a review would be required before issue.

***Repeat** – For monthly/continued use medication/s. If the medication and condition reviews and/or monitoring are up to date, clinicians may wish to reauthorise the medication up to the next review/monitoring date.

****Repeat Dispensing** – Similar to **Repeat**, however a clinician may feel that a batch prescription of up to 6 months is appropriate if all medication and condition reviews and/or monitoring are synchronised.

Variable Use *Repeat – For “when required” medications that may not be required each month. If the medication and condition reviews and/or monitoring are up to date, clinicians may wish to reauthorise the medication up to the next review/monitoring date.

Variable Use **Repeat Dispensing - Similar to **Variable Use Repeat**, however a clinician may feel that a batch prescription of up to 6 months is appropriate if all medication and condition reviews and/or monitoring are synchronised.

Hospital – For medications which the patient is receiving from an external clinic/team. It is important to add medications of this kind from clinic team correspondence to ensure that general practice clinicians are aware when they review/prescribe for a patient – important interactions/contraindications could be missed if prescribers are unaware. As a safety measure, the quantity should be set to 0.001 so that in the case of accidental prescribing from the surgery, the item will not be processable at the pharmacy, NOTE: to change a medication to Hospital, at the issue screen, select “Change all” and on the drop-down options select “Record Hospital (No Print)”.

Linked Problems – Having this viewing setting enabled on Emis may be particularly beneficial to non-clinical team members who may deal with prescription requests and/or queries. It does require clinicians to link problems to medications, but it is good practice to do so. This ensures it is clear to clinical or non-clinical team members, what the medication/s are being used to treat. NOTE: to switch to this viewing setting, when on the medication screen, above the medications list, select “View Style” and on the drop-down options select “Multi-lined (Detailed)”

***Repeat** prescribing requires the patient to **contact their GP practice every time** they need a new repeat prescription

****Repeat dispensing** is a way of dispensing regular medicines to suitable patients **without the direct involvement of the GP surgery, on each occasion a repeat medicine is required**

If you have any further training requirements regarding the Emis medication screen, please do not hesitate to get in touch with your dedicate Clinical Applications Specialist/GP IT Trainer.

To contact the Medicines Optimisation Team please phone 01772 214302

If you have any suggestions for future topics to cover in our prescribing tips please contact Nicola.schaffel@nhs.net