



# 28 DAY PRESCRIBING



## WHY YOUR GP PRACTICE PRESCRIBES MEDICINES AT ONE MONTH INTERVALS

### HOW WILL 28 DAY PRESCRIBING AFFECT YOU?

If you are being prescribed a 'repeat medicine' your doctor will now start to prescribe enough of each medication to last you for 28 days.

For example, if you are taking 2 tablets a day you will receive 56 tablets, 3 tablets a day = 84 tablets, 4 tablets a day = 112 tablets etc.

This will mean that you will be able to order all of your medicines on the same day each month.

We plan to phase this implementation with all patients being switched gradually.

### WILL IT COST PATIENTS MORE?

If you do have to pay prescription charges and you need more than one item a month the best way to pay for your prescriptions would be to obtain a Prescription Prepayment Certificate (PPC). This costs £104.00 a year or £29.10 every 3 months.

Any expense from any additional acute items issued during the year will also be covered in this payment.

If you require any further information on this please see our website

### ARE THERE ANY EXCEPTIONS?

There are some drugs which are packaged in 3 monthly amounts and so these will continue to be dispensed in these packs e.g. contraceptive pills and HRT.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

You will always start (and finish), the container of each medicine on the same day of the week. In this way it will be easier for your doctor to review all of the repeat medicines you are taking and to see if you might be having problems with any of your medicines.

28 day prescribing reduces the amount of medicine which is currently wasted when medicines are stopped or changed by the doctors. It also reduces the amount which is wasted when partly filled containers are thrown away.

Companies already manufacture a large number of medicines in 28 day 'calendar packs' that show the day of the week on the packaging. This packaging allows you to check and monitor that you have taken your medication each day.

### ORDERING PRESCRIPTIONS

When requesting repeat medications please do not reorder more than 7 days in advance but allow a minimum of 2 days for us to issue the prescription.

We can accept your request in writing or via our website.

We also offer Patient Access which enables you to reorder your medication and book appointments online.

To register for this service please ask at reception.

### OTHER INFORMATION

If you have any questions or would like any more information please take a look at our website.

Alternatively the NHS choices website at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) has lots of reliable medicines related information.