

# Changes to Repeat Prescribing from February 2018

NHS Calderdale CCG are now asking patients to manage their repeat prescription orders directly through their GP practice. This will mean that Pharmacists will no longer be able to order medication on patients behalf.

This will support the CCG in reducing the number items that are ordered when no-longer required. Often patients find that they begin to build up a stock of unused medicines, which cannot be returned to pharmacies to be reused even if they are unopened.

Here are some frequently asked questions

## **How do I order my repeat prescription?**

Patients should order their repeat prescriptions when they have 7-10 days of medication left, by:

- using GP online services or downloading the 'SystemOnline' app onto your mobile phone or tablet device
- handing in the tear-off part of their repeat prescription to your GP surgery
- writing a letter to your GP surgery

## **Do I have to collect my repeat prescription from the GP surgery and then take it to a pharmacy myself in order to obtain my medicines?**

No, the only aspect that will be changing is how your repeat prescriptions are ordered.

Pharmacies that collect prescriptions from GP practices will still do so and those who deliver medication to your door if required will continue to do so.

## **How do I order prescriptions online if I have never done so?**

You will need to contact your GP practice in the first instance; they will provide you with details of how to set up online services. You will also be able to book GP appointments online.

## **How can somebody else order repeat prescriptions on my behalf?**

If you provide consent to your GP practice, family members, carers and care home managers will be able to request access to online services on your behalf. This will enable you to nominate someone to assist with the online ordering process if required. For more information about this please speak to your GP practice.

## **Can I order repeat prescriptions for my child(ren)?**

Parents can be given proxy access to their child's online record which would allow them to order repeat prescriptions online. Ask your GP practice for further information.

## **What if I forget to order my repeat prescription and the GP practice is closed?**

GP practices usually take two working days to generate a prescription. Once a repeat request has been made by a patient/pharmacy, this will still apply. However ordering online provides more flexibility enabling patients to order medication outside GP opening hours. If you have run out of your medication and your GP practice is closed, you should contact your usual community pharmacist who may be able to assist you or contact 111.

## **Am I able to order an item online that is not on my repeat medication list but something I have had issued through my GP before?**

There is a free text box when ordering online, to request an item that is not on your repeat list. This does not necessarily mean your GP will be able to issue this item. It will be decided on a case by case basis by your GP.

## **What if I or someone I know still needs assistance with ordering their repeat prescriptions?**

We recognise that some patients may still require assistance with ordering their repeat prescriptions, for example, due to age, mental illness or capacity. In these circumstances, and with the agreement of the GP practice, the pharmacy or appliance contractor may carry on ordering on the patient's behalf. If a family member, or carer, knows someone who they think needs help ordering prescriptions they should speak to the GP practice or pharmacy as soon as possible.

## **How do I give feedback or make a complaint?**

Patients should speak to their GP practice if they have any concerns or complaints about the new system and the procedures that the practice has put in place for repeat prescription ordering.

**If you wish to raise a formal complaint specifically about the decision to change the process, contact the CCG via <https://www.calderdaleccg.nhs.uk/contact-us/comments-andcomplaints/>**