

MDS Notification

Patient Details:	Pharmacy Details:
	Contact name:

Dear Doctor _____

Date: _____

Following a formal assessment under the Equality Act 2010 made by the pharmacy your patient above is now receiving medication in a Monitored Dosage System (MDS). To reduce the potential for medication errors please can you:

1. Ensure all prescriptions are synchronised.
2. Inform the pharmacy immediately of any changes to medication including the issue of an acute medicine or stoppage of any medicine (even if temporary).
3. Inform the pharmacy when the patient is admitted to hospital.
4. State on the prescription the indication for any PRN medications (eg why the paracetamol is prescribed).

I feel that this patient is on stable medication and is suitable for 'Repeat Dispensing' **Yes / No**

28-day prescriptions are appropriate for the majority of patients who are stable and for whom there are no safety concerns. However, it may be appropriate to prescribe in 7 day intervals for some patients.

Request for MDS initiated by	Patient / Carer / GP / Other:
Rationale given for request	
7 day prescriptions have been requested for this patient because	
The patient is confused and cannot cope with 4 weekly MDS trays at home at one time. As a result, there is risk of the patient overdosing by taking meds from multiple trays. FP10 prescriptions do not allow pharmacies to dispense in instalments and so 7-day scripts are required for the patient to be in possession of one MDS tray at any time.	Tick
One or more of the medicines have limited stability and will not necessarily be effective after 28 days in an MDS tray. Medicine(s) affected: See https://www.sps.nhs.uk/home/tools/medicines-in-compliance-aids-stability-tool/ for further information on stability	
The medication regime is not stable and is subject to frequent changes. A reduced prescribing interval will reduce wastage due to the elimination of mid-cycle changes.	
Other...	

Feedback: A collaborative approach, with open communication, between professionals is recommended. Where the prescriber does not agree to supply 7 day prescriptions for the patient the rationale for this decision should be shared with the community pharmacy. Ideally this feedback should be verbally to enable a joint clinical discussion and mutually agreed decision. The clinical risk of not supplying 7-days when this has been requested must also be considered.

Once medicines have been supplied to a patient, whether in an MDS or in manufacturer's original packs, then no further changes to what has been supplied can be made. The NHS terms of service do not require pharmacies to modify previously supplied MDS trays if there is a change in medication mid-cycle. If medication is changed mid-cycle then new prescriptions will be required from the prescriber for all items to prepare new MDS.

Length of prescriptions should be specific to the status and condition of the patient and their particular clinical needs.