# Prepare prescriptions for prescription-only medicines



#### **Overview**

This standard is about preparing prescriptions for prescription-only medicines for individuals as part of their treatment plan.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

### Prepare prescriptions for prescription-only medicines

## Performance criteria

#### You must be able to:

- P1 keep prescription forms in a safe place
- P2 prescribe medication in line with the individual's treatment plan and condition
- P3 follow guidelines and protocols, where available, in selecting the type of medication, dosage and frequency of administration
- P4 consult an appropriate clinical supervisor, if you are unsure about the medication to be prescribed or your level of competence in prescribing it
- P5 state, on the correct form for prescribing prescription-only medicines:
  - P5.1 the individual's name and address
  - P5.2 the name of the medication
  - P5.3 the form and, where appropriate, the strength of the preparation
  - P5.4 the total quantity of the preparation (the number of dose units)
  - P5.5 the dose
  - P5.6 the route for administration, if the administration route is other than oral
  - P5.7 the end point of the prescription
- P6 leave no blank space on the form in which the individual could add further items
- P7 sign and date the prescription, or ensure it is signed and dated by a clinician
- P8 make arrangements for repeat prescriptions, when required
- P9 ensure the prescription is cost-effective and that unnecessary supplies are not made
- P10 confirm details of prescriptions with dispensing pharmacists, when required
- P11 record the prescription for medication clearly and accurately on the individual's record
- P12 ensure that records of the individual's treatment are available only to those authorised to see them
- P13 take part in regular clinical reviews of the individual's progress including compliance with the prescribing regime
- P14 review your prescribing practice in view of new guidelines and/or evidence

### Prepare prescriptions for prescription-only medicines

## Knowledge and understanding

## You need to know and understand:

- K1 the importance of keeping full, legible and accurate records in date order, and how to do so
- K2 the principle of confidentiality: what information may be given to whom
- K3 guidelines and protocols for the prescription of the medication
- K4 types, properties, functions, effects, indications and contra-indications of the medication that can be used in the treatment of the individual's condition
- K5 methods of administration of the medication
- K6 how to calculate the correct dose of medication and frequency of administration
- K7 how to relate the prescription to the individual's condition and treatment plan
- K8 the correct form to be used when prescribing medication and the information required
- K9 the importance of keeping prescription forms in a safe place
- K10 when to make arrangements for repeat prescriptions, and how to do so
- K11 how to record prescriptions clearly and accurately on appropriate documentation
- K12 how to review your prescribing practice in view of new guidelines and/or evidence
- K13 the effects and benefits of the use of prescribed medication
- K14 the consequences of not taking the prescribed medication
- K15 the potential consequences of combining prescribed medication with other substances
- K16 the importance of carrying out regular clinical reviews of the individual's progress and their compliance with the prescribing regime, and how to do so
- K17 drugs commonly used in the treatment of CHD and their potential side effects
- K18 research evidence, national and local guidelines and policies for prescribing drugs for individuals at significant risk of CHD
- K19 the effects of CHD medications on other health conditions
- K20 the range of medications and their effects and side effects
- K21 criteria for prescribing suitable medications (eg NICE guidelines)
- K22 organisational requirements and policies relevant to the functions being carried out
- K23 an appropriate clinical supervisor to consult when you are unsure about the medication to be prescribed or your level of competence in prescribing it

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#### **Additional Information**

**External Links** 

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

## Prepare prescriptions for prescription-only medicines

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