

Guidance for Prescribing Appliances on FP10 Prescriptions

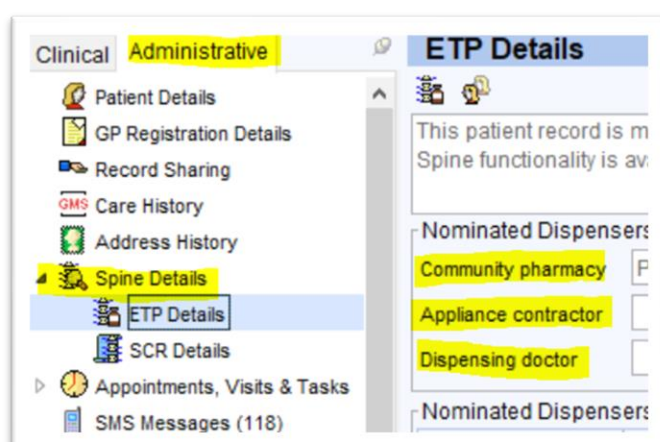
Ensuring patients are prescribed appropriate appliances and accessories can greatly improve their quality of life. Liaising with the Specialist Nurses will ensure that patients are receiving the appropriate products to manage their stoma, catheter or other appliance, and will prevent wasteful prescribing too.

Continence and stoma appliances are usually provided to patients by an FP10 prescription written by their GP or a nurse prescriber, which can then be dispensed by:

- A dispensing appliance contractor (DAC)
- A community pharmacy
- A dispensing doctor

Prescribing and Nominating Suppliers/Pharmacies

- All recommendations/prescriptions for appliances (stoma and continence and other appliances) should be recommended by specialists and in line with locally agreed formularies - See <http://bswformulary.nhs.uk>. Specialists include:
 - Stoma service
 - Bowel and Bladder Service
 - Continence nurses
- The frequency and quantities on a prescription should be guided by the specialist in the first instance. Guidance can be found on the relevant formulary:
 - [Stoma](#)
 - [Continence and Urology Products](#)
- Prescriptions for appliance products can be on the same prescription as medication but must be checked to make sure that the products are going to the patient's DAC (if they have a DAC nominated) not the pharmacy along with the medication.
- Patients should be made aware they have a choice as to where their prescription can be dispensed/supplied.
 - It is good practice to check that the ETP Nomination for the supplier/dispenser is updated on clinical system (e.g. SystmOne) to reflect the choice of the patient.
 - Be aware and inform your patient that they can opt to change supplier or dispenser at any point, by informing their GP Surgery who can update the nomination on the patient record.
 - The GP Surgery clinical system (e.g. SystmOne) holds the functionality to nominate both an appliance contractor (i.e. DAC) *and* a community pharmacy:



- Nominating both a community pharmacy and an appliance contractor is particularly important when the patient has regular medication *and* appliances prescribed, as an appliance

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contractor is unable to dispense or supply medication; best practice is to prescribe appliances on a separate prescription to any medication, however, SystmOne has the ability to separate these automatically.

- **PLEASE NOTE:** emollients, barrier creams and sharps bins are also classed as appliances. This means that SystmOne will try to send these items to the appliance contractor (DAC) if one is nominated; ensure you select the correct option on the pop-up screen to send these items to the patient's community pharmacy.
- Patients should also be made aware that the supplier (DAC or community pharmacy) is a non-NHS organisation and should provide informed consent for their personal data to be shared with the supplier.
- Requests for new products should *not* be accepted directly from the patient, or from a third party such as a DAC. They should only be accepted on the advice of a relevant NHS clinician who has recently reviewed the patient and deemed the new product as clinically suitable and necessary.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Although patients are able to request samples from the various appliance companies, these should not be prescribed until the patient has undergone clinical review and they have been agreed by their specialist.

Ordering/Prescription Request GP surgery

- Patients should be ordering their appliance products directly through their surgery when they get to a defined threshold quantity sufficient to allow time for delivery.
- Retrospective prescriptions are **not** allowed. If a DAC or pharmacy contractor requests a prescription retrospectively, the GP surgery is entitled to refuse to supply a prescription.
- In an emergency situation, before supplying the requested item to a patient, the supplier should contact the prescriber to confirm that the requested item is clinically appropriate for the patient and to agree that a prescription will be released for the item that will be supplied. That is to say, products should not be released unless the supplier is confident a prescription will be provided for the requested product(s).
- Occasionally a patient may request more frequent or larger quantities than those recommended. Sometimes a patient may also request a completely new appliance or accessory. For these patients it may be an indication that the individual should be reviewed by the relevant specialist as their needs may have changed (this is particularly relevant to **stoma** patients) and to ensure the patient is receiving the most clinically appropriate products. Please document if a patient requires quantities outside of anticipated usual prescribed levels, for future reference.
- If it is unclear what the patient is using, the patient and/or the Specialist Nurse should be contacted to clarify the products being used.
- For products that have not been requested for a year or more, agreement should be gained from the prescriber/specialist so that these products can be deleted from the patient's repeat template.
- Patients should be advised to avoid stock piling as some products have a recommended shelf life and are influenced by changes in temperature.

Note:

Wipes and disposal bags are supplied **free** of charge by DACs and community pharmacies. They **cannot** be prescribed.

Night bag stands – are supplied by DAC's as a **COMPLIMENTARY** item if ordering night bags for the first time, or on request by the patient. If your patient is registered with a DAC and requires another one ie: the one they have is broken, they will have to contact their DAC directly. Night bag stands **CANNOT** be obtained from your nominated pharmacy.

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Useful contacts:

GWH Stoma Team -- 01793 646202

RUH Stoma Team --- 01225 824056

SFT Stoma Team --- 01722 429526

GWH Urology --- 01793 604139

RUH Urology -- 01225 824034

SFT Urology - 01722 429058

All surgeries

For any advice or queries regarding appliances please advise your Appliance Champion to contact Jackie on the email address below.

Jackie Morgan – Appliance Assistant – contact: bswicb.prescribing@nhs.net or via MS Teams.