

## 20. Medicines Management

Medicines Management				
Task / Activity	Self-Assessment / Date	Competency Assessed Y / N	Competency Achieved	Signed off by Clinical Assessor / Date
<p><b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>  <b>(For all references to medicines management regarding vaccines, please refer to the appropriate section. For references to medicines related to anticoagulation, please refer to the appropriate section)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be aware of the GPNA responsibilities in relation to medicines management and comply with the Care Quality Commission Key Lines of Enquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ People have their medicines when they need them, and access them in a safe way.<sup>270</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Demonstrate knowledge of the laws concerning prescribing and medicines management</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the role of the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).<sup>271</sup></li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of prescribing functionality within a clinical database context. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Understand that prescriptions cannot be printed by a non-prescriber, only by a prescriber.</li> <li>○ Understand that medication suggestions may be added by a nurse within the limits of their area of expertise, and discussed with a prescriber.</li> <li>○ Understand that when a prescription has been used as a PSD, that the wording (right drug, right dose, right route, right interval) reflects the legal guidance for PSDs.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the local and national guidance and legal framework for prescribing.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the legal status of a prescription form (FP10) and implications for safety, security and risks of misuse.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of 'homely remedies', medicines recommendations, Patient Specific Directions (PSDs), Patient Group Directions (PGDs).<sup>272</sup></li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the monitoring requirements for prescribed medicines.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the limits of pharmacotherapies in Long Term Conditions (LTCs) and where lifestyle has more impact.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the legal status of emergency medicines obtained for stock and use in the practice.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the monitoring and audit of emergency medicines, how to acquire them, and local Practice policies.</li> </ul>				

<sup>270</sup> [Medicines management \(healthcare services\) - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk/publications/medicines-management-healthcare-services)

<sup>271</sup> [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/medicines-and-healthcare-products-regulatory-agency)

<sup>272</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/patient-group-directions-pgds/patient-group-directions-who-can-use-them>; <https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/questions-about-patient-specific-directions-psd/>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the use of Computerised Decision Support Software (CDSS) (see section on anticoagulation) for dosing warfarin.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of GP practice-related medical devices alerts and act appropriately in line with local policies and procedures.<sup>273</sup></li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of the requirements of the Medicines Act, including safe storage, rotation and disposal of vaccines and drugs, as appropriate to role.</li> <li>• Demonstrate an understanding of cold chain, safe storage, vaccine stability, rotation, and disposal of drugs.</li> <li>• Be aware of prescribing cost effectiveness, and work within local guidance.</li> <li>• Have up to date knowledge of current therapeutic guidelines, recommendations, and changes within local policies.</li> <li>• Navigate and utilise the British National Formulary [BNF/cBNF], electronic BNF/cBNF and local formularies.<sup>274</sup></li> </ul> <p><b>Patient Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the treatment terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Concordance.</li> <li>○ Compliance.</li> <li>○ Adherence.</li> <li>○ And be able to clarify this with patients during consultations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Have a shared decision-making conversation with the patient about the overall risks and benefits of lifestyle change and the medications available, alongside their potential side effects.</li> <li>• Be able to explain the type and frequency of the monitoring needed.</li> <li>• Appropriately signpost to and liaise with pharmacists within or outside the team.</li> <li>• Be clear that 'medication reviews' should not be performed by non-prescribers.</li> <li>• Be able to understand the GPNA role in the management of LTCs</li> <li>• Oversee the monitoring, stock control and documentation of Controlled Drug (CDs) usage according to legal requirements, as appropriate to role, if CDs are stored in the practice.</li> <li>• Be able to recognise when patient complexity exceeds competence and refer on as appropriate.</li> <li>• Be able to recognise and respect patients' needs where they include medications and signpost to Community Pharmacy or GP/ACP as appropriate.</li> <li>• Be able to recognise that recommending a particular Over the Counter (Otc) medicine is part of prescribing and that this may be outside of the nurse's competence.</li> <li>• Be able to safely signpost to Community Pharmacy to access the appropriate product and dose to manage vaccination side effects.</li> <li>• Review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Be able to review patient at appropriate intervals dependent on the clinical indications for a medicine.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

<sup>273</sup> <https://www.cas.mhra.gov.uk/SearchAlerts.aspx>

<sup>274</sup> <https://bnf.nice.org.uk/>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Be able to revisit explanations and shared decision-making conversations as needed.</li> <li>○ Be able to participate in the review of results and ensuring patient receives follow up from a suitable senior clinical where appropriate.</li> <li>○ Be able to recognise when patient complexity exceeds competence and refer on as appropriate.</li> <li>○ Ensure that patients are provided with information regarding prescription charge exemptions where appropriate.</li> </ul>				