Introduction to a centralised prescribing system called Cobweb for continence and stoma care products

Dear All

In 2015, a review into stoma and continence prescribing highlighted a 5% increase in the prescribing of these products year on year and also major issues with manufacturers and delivery firms requesting 3rd party prescriptions from general practice.

Therefore we have subsequently been working closely with a company who have developed a centralised prescribing monitoring tool for both these products ranges called Cobweb.

Cobweb is a computer-based software package that provides centralised patient management for continence and stoma services to deliver the best patient care, whilst closely controlling budgets. The proven Cobweb system can be used within the community to monitor and manage prescriptions for continence and stoma products. The system acts as a database for all continence and stoma patients in our area and will help with any patient reviews and optimise continence and stoma Part IX Drug Tariff product usage within the community.

Evidence from a number of CCGs around the country has indicated that by centralising the prescribing of these products it offers the following benefits:

- Improve patient care, patient satisfaction, patient safety due the system being able to highlight when reviews are needed, managing the prescribing in a more structured way and enabling a more efficient delivery service.
- Clinicians (mainly GPs) will be able to leave the management of FP10s and repeat prescriptions for this cohort of patients to a centralised system managed by the specialist nurses.
- Reduce prescribing costs and reduce wastage as a result of having the opportunity for patient education on the correct product use and the streamlining of items.
- Increased adherence to continence / stoma formulary (once developed)
• Prevention of readmissions

Discussions have taken place with YTHFT community services to host this service within the specialist nursing and the district nursing teams and it has been agreed that they will administer the system. A lead nurse will be responsible for managing the prescriptions and patients will have a choice as to how they receive their continence* and stoma products.

*NB: this excludes continence pads.

A number of practices are now piloting this system throughout the summer of 2016 starting with York Medical Group and Jorvik Gillygate Practice first on the 20th June 16.

Should you wish to discuss this further do not hesitate to contact Julie Ryan, Innovation & Improvement Manager (julieryan@nhs.net) or Laura Angus, Lead Pharmacist (l.angus@nhs.net) at NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Shaun O’Connell