**FAO: Prescribers – Re-use of Medicines in a Care Home or Hospice**

New national guidance has been published to enable the re-use of medicines between residents living in the same care home or within the same hospice. This is for use in exceptional circumstances where other medicine supplies are not available in a timely fashion, and where the medicine is no longer needed by the resident it was originally prescribed for.

The guidance which includes the SOP is here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-reuse-of-medicines-in-a-care-home-or-hospice> (please use the link to ensure you have the latest version of the guidance).

Patient consent for the process should in place, wherever possible- see table 3 in the guidance for more information.

The Medicines Management Team can be contacted via email - VOYCCG.Rxline@nhs.net for further support.

Prescribers should note that they should satisfy themselves that the medication is fit to use before authorising it to be administered; the SOP outlines what issues to check for. The prescriber should record the consultation with the care home staff (including their name and designation) in the patient’s record.

Information will also be sent to care homes, hospices and other key stakeholders, to alert them to this change of practice.

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