Medicines Management Repeat Prescribing Systems Scheme

Introduction

It is estimated that 1 – 2% of the prescribing budget (circa £350-700k per annum) is wasted due to poor repeat prescription ordering systems. The number of prescriptions in Greater Huddersfield CCG increased in 2015-16 by 3.5% compared with 2014-15. Luton CCG implemented a policy of stopping third party prescription ordering (e.g. community pharmacy or appliance contractors) and the number of prescription items held steady due to a reduction in over ordering which subsequently led to a reduction in waste.

Aim of the project:

- Reduce medicines wastage from orders that are not required by patients
- Reduce GP practice and community pharmacy workload
- Support improved compliance with prescribed medicines by patients

Part 1 – Repeat Prescribing Protocols

What is expected of General Practice:

1. Practice to draft and implement a repeat prescribing protocol written AND in use that covers key elements set out in the scheme used by front line staff to include the following:
   - Methods for ordering repeat prescriptions
   - Patients are encouraged to order repeat prescriptions themselves.

2. Practices to develop and implement a plan to reduce third party prescription ordering (community pharmacies, appliance companies, stoma contractors etc.); the aim is to restrict third party ordering for only the most vulnerable patients. This will be phased in by the end of Q4 2016-17.

CCG Support:

1. The CCG will provide a check list of items to include in a repeat prescribing template.
2. The CCG will provide repeat prescribing data by commissioning team for practices to review and monitor reductions in overall spend.
3. Communications Support e.g. public messages, posters, leaflets etc.

Part 2 - Online Ordering

Aim of the project:

- To increase the overall number of patients using online prescription ordering
- To increase the number of patients on repeat medications using online repeat prescription ordering
- Support improved understanding of prescribed medications by patients.
- Support better compliance with medications by patients
What is expected of General Practice:

1. Practices to promote online ordering to patients with the aim that at least 20% (with a stretch target of 30%) of repeat prescriptions ordered online by Q1 2017-18

CCG Support

1. The CCG will provide practices with data on number and percentage of patients set up to order prescriptions online as identified via HSCIC information. Q1 2017-18
2. The CCG will provide practices with data on the number and percentage of repeat items requested via online ordering system (identified via HSCIC data) Q1 2017-18
3. The CCG will support practices through promotion of online ordering through media and other communications channels.

**Part 3 - Electronic Prescription Service (EPS)**

**Aim of the project:**

- To increase the number of patients using the Electronic Prescription Service
- To increase the percentage of prescriptions sent via EPS
- Reduce prescriptions lost/mislaid and requiring reprinting
- To ensure that patient nominations for dispensing pharmacy are implemented

What is expected of General Practice:

1. Practices should increase use of Electronic Prescription Service with the aim of achieving at least 60% of repeat prescriptions submitted through EPS2 system by Q1 2017-18.

CCG Support

1. The CCG will provide practices with data on number and percentages of prescriptions being submitted through the EPS2 system.
Scheme Payment

GP Practices will be funded to a maximum of £0.50 per patient for achievement of all three elements of the scheme:

- Repeat Prescribing Protocol Implementation Plan submitted by 30th November 2016 & Third party ordering restricted by 31st March 2017 AND
- Online ordering > 30% of repeat prescriptions (best of three months Q1 2017-18) AND
- EPS%> 60% items Q1 2017-18.

GP practices will be paid £0.30 per patient for achievement of:

- Repeat Prescribing Protocol Implementation Plan submitted by 30th November 2016 & Third party ordering restricted by 31st March 2017 AND
- Online ordering > 20% of repeat prescriptions (best of three months Q1 2017-18) OR EPS%> 60% items Q1 2017-18.