



# Tablet Press



The prescribing newsletter for GPs, nurses and pharmacists  
NHS Nene CCG and NHS Corby CCG

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- **Northampton General Hospital (NGH) Outpatient Dispensing**

The November 2015 Tablet Press included information on the successful opening of Boots Pharmacy within NGH for dispensing outpatient prescriptions; the aim being to improve the service to outpatients, provide a retail facility and allow the hospital pharmacy to focus on supporting in-patients.

One implementation issue which has caused some confusion was the Boots Outpatient Prescription/Advice form (quadruple copies). This has now been reviewed and amended after consultation.

There are now two separate forms, both of which are single sheets of paper;

- ✓ Boots Prescription, for hospital prescriber use (dispensed at NGH Boots only)  
This is for use when urgent treatment (as defined within the NGH contract i.e. to start within 5 days) is required, or the treatment is specialist and remains with the hospital.
- ✓ Advice Form to GPs.  
This is used to advise the GP to prescribe a new medication, or change existing treatment, when this is not urgent.

Use of the new forms has recently been implemented and GP practices may already have started to see them.

- **RCN issues guidance on Medicines Optimisation**

Good medicines management, or optimisation of medicines, is an integral part of most nursing practice and includes the administration of medicines, prescribing and supporting people to take their medicines correctly.

The term medicines optimisation is now more generally used to encompass a more people centred approach to the use of medicine as part of a person's care. The RCN website includes links to numerous resources supporting medicines optimisation, and features specialist areas relating to medicines management in care homes, patient specific directions and patient group directions; and prescribing in pregnancy

<http://www.rcn.org.uk/clinical-topics/medicines-optimisation>

- **Supply of topical anaesthesia for hospital-based procedures**

Guidance regarding the responsibilities of providing topical anaesthesia for hospital-based procedures has been approved by the Northamptonshire Prescribing Management Group and has been shared with the acute trusts via the contract leads. This can be found on Pathfinder at –

<http://www.pathfinder-rf.northants.nhs.uk/media/3424730/topical-anaesthesia-for-hospital-based-treatments.pdf>

- **Comfort Point needles; Note for SystemOne users**

At the end of April 2016, the manufacturers of Comfort Point needles changed the name to CarePoint needles, although the product remains the same. SystemOne has applied the change retrospectively, to all references to the product including existing repeat templates and past issues on patients' medical records. This retrospective change renders the chronological record inaccurate and may cause confusion; a complaint has been logged with TPP. EMIS has applied the change to the dm&d (dictionary of medicines and devices) but only new prescribing will be affected.

- **Diabetes Week 12-18<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

THINKING AHEAD is a resource document produced by UKMI for specific health events and seasonal conditions that may have a public health impact. This edition is for Diabetes Week 12th - 18th June 2016

It includes links to patient information, clinical guidelines and reviews.

[Thinking Ahead - Diabetes Week 12th-18th June 2016](#)

- **NICE bites – Controlled drugs: safe use and management**

NICE Bites is a monthly bulletin from the North West Medicines Information Centre that summarises key prescribing points from NICE guidance. This edition covers Controlled drugs - safe use and management; NG46

[NICE Bites - Controlled drugs: safe use and management](#)

- **Guidelines on treatment of hay-fever in pregnancy**

UKMI have updated their document regarding the treatment of hay-fever in pregnancy which can be found at

[Treatment of intermittent rhinitis in pregnancy UKMI](#)

This edition is also available on PathfinderRF via the following link <http://www.pathfinder-rf.northants.nhs.uk/nene> and on the Nene CCG and Corby CCG websites

#### Disclaimer

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