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Prescribing Newsletter

NHS
Bedfordshire
Clinical Commissioning Group

TCAM: Transfer of Care Around Medicines

This is a briefing for general practice teams on the electronic sharing of medicines information between hospital and community pharmacy when patients are discharged from inpatient care from Bedford Hospital NHS Trust.

What

The TCAM project will facilitate the secure electronic transfer of medication information (including the TTO discharge prescription) from the hospital to the patient's regular community pharmacy via the PharmOutcomes online tool. Patients must give their consent for such communication to take place and will select the community pharmacy they wish their information to be sent to. They will be provided with information prior to giving consent.

The hospital pharmacy team will make referrals for patients who may benefit from additional support with their medicines such as the New Medicines Service (NMS), smoking cessation services or any patients with potential concordance issues (at the discretion of the hospital pharmacy team). The community pharmacy will then be better placed to support the patient with e.g. changes to their regular medications following their inpatient stay.

Why

The project is part of a national drive to reduce patient safety incidents caused by medication communication issues when care is discharged from hospital. This is supported by NHS England and is being rolled out across the country through the Academic Health Science Networks.

What do I need to do?

There will be no additional workload for GP practices. The project aims to smooth the patient's transition from secondary to primary care.

When

The hospital team will begin referring patients in early December but will start with a small cohort of patients and grow the service gradually over time.

Contact

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Formulary Changes

We have recently switched from using Longtec to Oxypro. The tablets are in childproof packaging which cannot be pressed out of the blister.

[Click here](#) for a video showing how to open them.

Treatment of Dry Eye Prescribing Guidelines

We have been working closely with Moorfields at Bedford to identify where the treatment of Dry Eye should be considered as self-care. Moorfields at Bedford Hospital and Luton and Dunstable Hospital eye service have now produced a leaflet to give to patients recommending products to purchase for mild to moderate dry eye. It

is hoped that this will reduce the number of patients requesting prescriptions from the GP for this condition. In the past 12 months we have also sent letters to local opticians to inform them that drops for mild to moderate dry eye are self-care and patients should be purchasing these themselves.

Antimicrobial Prescribing Guidelines

Due to frequent updates throughout 2019 we will no longer be printing the guidelines and have no booklets available. Current guidelines can be found on [GPref](#) or via [MicroGuide](#).

New recommendations are due to be added in March 2020.

Development of Medicines Management Website

The BCCG Medicines Optimisation Team is currently scoping a new website which will encompass the upcoming merger of the Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes CCGs.

It is planned that this website will contain the latest prescribing updates, JPC information and bulletins, as well as resources such as formularies, forms and links to other relevant websites, all in a more user-friendly format.

Content will be managed directly by the Team, ensuring it remains up to date and relevant and as this will be a stand-alone site, it will withstand any future changes to the BLMK structure.

If you have any suggestions for format or useful content please do get in touch (samantha.scholes@nhs.net).

It is anticipated that the site will be up and running by Summer 2020 but we will of course keep you informed.

Medication Safety

Emollients: risk of severe and fatal burns with paraffin-containing and paraffin-free emollients - further death

Following a recent Coroner's report we wanted to remind prescribers of the fire risks surrounding the use of paraffin-based skin products p, as detailed in the [MHRA Drug Safety Update](#).

The report will be discussed at the Prescribing Committee and Joint Prescribing Committee.

We are working with primary and secondary care colleagues as well as community pharmacy to ensure we are doing all we can to educate our patients on the risks of paraffin-based products and fire.

USEFUL LINKS

Bedfordshire and Luton Joint Formulary <http://www.bedsformulary.nhs.uk/>

Care Home Medicines Management information can be found [HERE](#)

Latest Joint Prescribing Committee newsletter can be accessed [HERE](#)

Latest Care Home newsletter can be accessed [HERE](#)

Monthly prescribing practice reports are now available on GP Portal. Log in to see the most up to date data.

For further advice on any of the drugs/issues highlighted in this newsletter, please contact your Medicines Management Team:

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