



November 2017

Dear Patient of Foyers Medical Practice,

I am writing to provide information about the change to "28 day prescribing" that we are undertaking at Foyers Medical Practice. If you are prescribed repeat medications, "28 day prescribing" means you will receive enough of each medicine to last you one month. This will commence 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

**What is the reason behind the change?**

It is estimated that about 10% of medicines prescribed are wasted resulting in the loss of millions of pounds of NHS money. With a 28 day prescribing cycle, there is good evidence that this wastage can be significantly reduced and the associated savings used to better effect elsewhere within the NHS.

The NHS has recommended a move to one month prescribing and has issued the following statement: "A 28 day repeat prescribing interval is recognised by the NHS as making the best possible balance between patient convenience, good medical practice, and minimal drug wastage".

**What are the benefits of 28 day prescribing?**

- Reduced wastage of medicines.
- It will be easier for your doctor to review all the repeat medicines you are taking and see if you might be having problems with any of your medicines.

**Assisting with the change :**

- If possible, please order your medications on-line: [www.foyersmedicalcentre.co.uk](http://www.foyersmedicalcentre.co.uk). There is a function that will send you a reminder to re-order medications before they run out.
- Medication Drop-Offs: Starting in January 2018 there will be a regular weekly drop off at Inverarnie Stores and the Dores Inn. Please ask practice staff for details about this. Please note the service cannot be used for certain "controlled drugs" Routine prescription requests need 2 working days to be processed.

**In Summary**

- 28 day prescribing has important benefits for patients. The way you take your medicine will remain the same, only the amount of medicines you receive on each prescription will change.
- All medicines should last for the same number of days. If you are running out of some items or have too much of some medication, please tell the practice.
- Do not stockpile medicines at home; only order those items on your repeat prescription that you need. Return unwanted medication to the practice for safe disposal.
- Use online-ordering and the regular drop-offs for convenience.

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to ask at the surgery.

Many thanks,  
Yours sincerely,

  
Dr. Akash Devendra

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