



## Learning from BCBS Medication Incidents

In October we saw 33 medication incidents reported for BCBS, 21 were external medication errors (11 of which were discharge errors). A thematic review of the internal incidents have highlighted the following learning:

### Incident:

An incident occurred where an estradiol pessary was administered daily for 16 days instead of 14 days. After 14 days the pessary should have been reduced to one pessary twice a week. No harm came to the patient in this incident.

### Learning

Staff are reminded to ensure that they are following the prescription before administering and that they are following the 10 Rights for safe medicines administration.

### Transcribing an acute course:

Please ensure that when transcribing, the course start and stop date is clearly stated, and that this is clearly indicated on the administration section (see example below).

Please follow the [Policy for the Transcribing of Medication for the Purpose of Recording Administration in CHS 3.0](#).

## Good Practice Interventions



A big thank you to all the pharmacy technicians for supporting with the flu vaccination clinics in BCBS. This help has been greatly received across the service and a GREATix was received regarding this.

**Priti Patel (pharmacy technician)** intervened to help resolve an incident when a patient was sent home from the acute hospital with medication wrongly labelled. The patient was also sent with a different form of medication than what was prescribed on the discharge letter. Well done Priti!

**Kat Muzyczka (lead pharmacy technician)** intervened when a patient was sent home from the acute hospital without all of their documented discharge medication. Great work Kat!

**Clare Moody (lead pharmacy technician)** intervened when a patient was sent home from the acute hospital with medication that had been discontinued and were no longer required. Well done Clare!

## MHRA Drug Safety Update and ELFT Medication Safety Bulletin

The MHRA monthly drug safety update and the Trust's monthly medicines safety bulletin are available here: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk/intranet/teams-support-me/pharmacy/medicines-safety>



## Medication Shortages

Relevant new shortages highlighted by the ELFT pharmacy procurement team and updates are now located on the intranet: <https://www.elft.nhs.uk/intranet/teams-support-me/pharmacy/medicines-shortages>

**Ketoconazole Shampoo:** anticipated resupply date of 29.12.2023

**Rasagiline 1mg tablets:** limited supply until mid-December 2023

**Promethazine Liquid 5mg/5ml:** Resupply date into wholesalers is end of November 2023.

Any particular concerns regarding shortages, pharmacy also have access to the Specialist Pharmacy Service (SPS) online medicines supply tool with up to date procurement issues. [www.sps.nhs.uk](http://www.sps.nhs.uk)

### Example 2: Acute Course



Clear duration of treatment

Ensure antibiotic dose intervals are equal

Drug: CLARITHROMYCIN TABLETS	Route: PO	Time	Dose	To be administered by:
Special instructions: TO BE TAKEN FOR 5 days	Signature (only if you are prescribing the drug):	AM	500mg	
Transcribing date: SUNDAY 4 DAY	Source of Transcription (tick box):	LT		
Transcriber's Signature: Sunny	YTA	EVE	500mg	
Date: 12/04/21	LABEL	RED		
	PPAD			

THREE DATES: Date TRANSCRIBED, START date of course, STOP date of course

START on 12/4/21, Stop on 17/4/21

ADMINISTRATION RECORD

YEAR and MONTH		2021 APRIL						
DAY		M	T	W	T	F	S	S
DATE		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	AM							
	EVE							
	BED							

CLEAR instruction to stop after 5 days of treatment

We care

We respect

We are inclusive

Any questions or queries please contact the pharmacy team on [elft.pharmacybchs@nhs.net](mailto:elft.pharmacybchs@nhs.net)

<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/intranet/teams-support-me/pharmacy/pharmacy-community-health-services-chs>

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