



## Article

# Electronic repeat dispensing

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Electronic repeat dispensing (eRD) is an integral part of the electronic prescription service EPS, which offers many extra benefits over paper repeat dispensing and repeat prescribing. Electronic repeat dispensing is a recommended strategy for managing medicines during the Covid-19 pandemic.

- two-thirds of prescriptions issued in primary care are repeat prescriptions. These repeat prescriptions account for nearly 80% of NHS medicine costs for primary care
- 410 million repeat prescriptions are generated every year - equivalent to an average of more than 375 per GP per week
- it's estimated that up to 330 million, or 80%, of all repeat prescriptions could eventually be replaced with eRD
- this could save 2.7 million hours of GP and practice time

Ref <https://digital.nhs.uk/services/electronic-prescription-service/electronic-repeat-dispensing-for-prescribers#benefits-of-using-electronic-repeat-dispensing-erd-> last edited 3.6.19

It is always important to prescribe the correct quantity of medication to reduce waste and prevent confusion for the patient, however this is even more important when using eRD because your repeatable prescription could be repeated 13 times ie for one whole year.

Inhalers are available in a range of pack sizes. The dose and quantity required for one month varies according the specific inhaler. Complete this table to ensure that you prescribe the correct quantity on eRD for inhalers:

<b>NUMBER OF DOSES PER INHALER</b>	<b>NUMBER OF DOSES PER DAY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF DOSES PER MONTH</b>	<b>HOW MANY DAYS WILL THIS LAST?</b>	<b>APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY WEEKS OR MONTHS WILL THIS LAST?</b>
<b>200</b>	<b>One puff twice a day</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>100 days</b>	<b>3 months</b>
<b>200</b>	<b>Two puffs twice a day</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>50 days</b>	<b>7 weeks</b>
<b>200</b>	<b>Two puffs three times a day</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>33 Days</b>	<b>4 - 5 weeks</b>
<b>200</b>	<b>Two puffs four times a day</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>25 days</b>	<b>3 - 4 weeks</b>
<b>120</b>	<b>One puff twice a day</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>60 days</b>	<b>2 months</b>
<b>120</b>	<b>Two puffs twice a day</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>30 days</b>	<b>1 month</b>
<b>60</b>	<b>One puff twice a day</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>30 days</b>	<b>1 month</b>