



Article

Electronic repeat dispensing

Davies, Janice Anne

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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 is 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:

NUMBER OF DOSES PER INHALER	NUMBER OF DOSES PER DAY	NUMBER OF DOSES PER MONTH	HOW MANY DAYS WILL THIS LAST?	APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY WEEKS OR MONTHS WILL THIS LAST?
200	One puff twice a day	56		
200	Two puffs twice a day	112		
200	Two puffs three times a day	168		
200	Two puffs four times a day	224		
120	One puff twice a day	56		
120	Two puffs twice a day	112		
60	One puff twice a day	56		