

Best Practice for Authorising Administration of Injectables by Community Nurse Teams

This document relates to the authorisation for administration of injections in patients own homes, particular for “personally administered” items. Prescribers are asked to note the following recommendation.

Best Practice for the administration of injectable drugs by community nurse teams in patients’ homes include the key responsibility of the GP practice:

Prescribers should ensure that injectable medicines which require a community nurse team member to administer in a patient’s home are prescribed and labelled for the patient with clear dose instructions. This is best achieved by the practice issuing an FP10 for the item. Failure to issue a prescription means legally a patient specific direction is required for each administration; without this authorisation the nurse cannot legally administer the medication.

Note: this best practice of issuing an FP10 does not apply to flu vaccine (and COVID-19 vaccines) where the current

arrangement of a National Patient Group Direction is satisfactory.

This best practice has the support of the LMC. It ensures a proper legal framework for authorising administration: increases patient safety as the drugs are clearly labelled with the patient’s name and dosing instructions: and improves the efficiency of the community nurse team as they do not have to visit the practice before attending the patient.

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