

REPEAT DISPENSING INFORMATION SHEET



GP SOFTWARE PROBLEMS

The Repeat Dispensing (RD) process involves the prescriber producing a Repeatable Prescription (Fig 1) and a series of accompanying Batch Issues (Fig. 2), for the patient's repeat medicines.

Fig 1

The Repeatable Prescription is annotated “GP Repeat Dispensing”, “Authorising no. of issues = ” at the top of the prescription form above the medication and “RA” (except TOREX PREMIER see Fig 3) in the right hand pharmacy coding column, to distinguish it from normal HS21 prescription forms. The prescriber must sign the repeatable prescription form as this is the legal prescription as defined by the Medicines Act, 1968 and the community pharmacy must retain the Repeatable Prescription form until all batch issues have been dispensed.

Batch Issues are annotated “GP Repeat Dispensing”, and “RD” (except TOREX PREMIER see Fig 4) in the right hand pharmacy coding column, to distinguish it from normal HS21 prescription forms. The Batch

Issues contain the same details as the Repeatable Prescription. However, they are not signed by the GP, the prescriber signature box on each batch issue is overwritten with the batch number e.g. “Repeat Dispensing 1 of 12” (except TOREX PREMIER see Fig 4). In addition, the date on which the repeatable prescription was authorised is printed on all the batch issues.

For practices to issue and print Repeatable Prescriptions and Batch Issues the clinical system must have the Repeat Dispensing software activated (practices may have to contact their software supplier to facilitate this process).

Fig 2

TOREX PREMIER REPEATABLE PRESCRIPTION & BATCH ISSUES

Torex Premier software does not print Repeatable Prescriptions in the same format as shown in Fig 1. The software does not print “RA” in the right hand pharmacy coding column (see Fig 3).

Torex Premier software does not print Batch Issues in the same format as shown in Fig2. The software does not print “RD” in the right hand pharmacy coding column nor is the prescriber signature box overwritten with the batch number e.g. “Repeat Dispensing 1 of 12”. Instead this information is printed at the top of the Batch Issue above the medication as shown in Fig 4.

GP practices should contact their software suppliers for any additional information and support required

Fig 3

Fig 4

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EMIS LV REPEATABLE PRESCRIPTIONS & BATCH ISSUES

There is currently a problem with the EMIS LV 5.2 software when you select more than 4 items to be issued as a Batch. The Repeatable Prescription prints correctly, however, there is a problem with the way in which the 5th item on the Batch Issues is printed (see Fig 5 & 6).

GP REPEAT DISPENSING

Bendroflumethiazide Tablets 2.5 mg	ONE TO BE TAKEN IN THE MORNING	Quant : 28 tablet(s)
Isoniazide Mononitrate H/R Tablets 60 mg	ONE TO BE TAKEN DAILY	Quant : 28 tablet
Amlodipine Tablets 5 mg	One To Be Taken daily	Quant : 28 tablet
Simvastatin Tablets 40 mg	ONE TO BE TAKEN AT NIGHT	Quant : 28 tablet
Co-Codamol 30/500 Tablets		

Repeat Dispensing: 1 of 6 05/10/2006 1 RD 1110

Form Number: 1341719702

Fig 5

GP REPEAT DISPENSING

TWO TO BE TAKEN FOUR TIMES A DAY AS REQUIRED	Quant : 224 tablet
Ramipril Capsules 5 mg	ONE TO BE TAKEN IN THE MORNING
	Quant : 28 capsule

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Form Number: 1341719691

Fig 6

The problem is the drug name of the 5th item is printed on the bottom of one Batch Issue and the directions and quantity printed at the top of the next Batch Issue. Community pharmacists cannot dispense Batch Issues that have been printed incorrectly.

EMIS are aware of this fault with their software and have given no time scale for its resolution. In the interim, EMIS have suggested that if more than 4 items are required for a patient, then a second Repeatable Prescription for the extra items should be issued. If your practice has EMIS LV 5.2 and are experiencing this fault with your software you should log the fault with the EMIS helpdesk.

REPEAT DISPENSING READ CODES

The easiest method for practices to identify the number of patients they have on the Repeat Dispensing Scheme is to Read Code each patient prior to issuing prescriptions. The Repeat Dispensing read codes are: **8BM1** for EMIS, INPS & iSOFT (add dot . to make it 5 digits) **XaJus** for Healthy

COMMUNITY PHARMACY COMPUTER SYSTEMS

Pharmacists might find it useful to take action on the following points:



There will be a need to flag Repeat Dispensing patients using your computer system. A visible note on the patient details screen would be useful. This will allow all staff including locum staff to easily identify which patients are on the Repeat Dispensing Scheme.

Currently NHS scripts are valid for 6 months from the date of dispensing. Legislation has been passed to allow Repeat Dispensing scripts to be valid for up to 12 months from date of dispensing. However if you have entered Repeat Dispensing patient data onto McLernons computer system using 'phasing', the information will be automatically deleted after a 6-month period. McLernons have been working on this problem and it is hoped that the October upgrade will sort this problem out.



Your computer system may be able to print a label to remind the patient of the date that their next supply is due.

Some pharmacists have successfully used a spreadsheet e.g. Microsoft Excel, to monitor their repeat dispensing patients. This is particularly useful for predicting when patients' scripts are due for collection allowing timely ordering of stock. It also allows pharmacists to track patient collection of scripts.

Pharmacists should contact their software suppliers for any addition information and support