

**PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES  
ADDITIONAL SERVICES  
ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY  
DISEASE**

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The objective of the assessment and treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, by means of patient group directions (PGD) for amoxicillin, doxycycline and prednisolone, is to provide a timely and appropriate service for patients in the treatment of their condition and to identify patients who need onward referral to other NHS services.
- 1.2 Treatment on the NHS will be provided to patients who meet the criteria set out in the PGD and who wish to receive care following assessment by a community pharmacist.

## **2. Background to Service**

- 2.1 Unscheduled care services are coming under increasing pressure to deliver timely and appropriate care to patients. The “Know who to turn to”(KWTT) campaign has focused on directing patients to the most appropriate route of care to manage their condition.

## **3. Service aims**

- 3.1 To increase access for patients with COPD to medication related advice and patient centred medicine review through community pharmacies.
- 3.2 To provide rescue antibiotics and prednisolone to patients with hand held COPD record cards. This will be done under locally agreed patient group directions (PGD) for amoxicillin, doxycycline and prednisolone.
- 3.3 To provide consistent smoking cessation advice (in line with the Forth Valley community pharmacy smoking cessation scheme).
- 3.4 To reduce the number of referrals to NHS 24/OOHs for exacerbations of COPD and reduce the number of admissions to acute services with COPD.

## **4. Service outline and standard**

- 4.1 Advice is available to any person requesting advice from a community pharmacist including patients presenting with a hand held COPD record card.
- 4.2 Provision of rescue antibiotics and prednisolone via a locally agreed PGD is available to patients presenting with a hand held COPD record card.
- 4.3 This service **must** be available to all patients when the pharmacy is open (including out with normal GP hours).

- 4.4 The pharmacist will record any supply of antibiotics and prednisolone on the patient's hand held COPD record.
- 4.5 Pharmacies will provide support and advice (both written and verbal) to the client.
- 4.6 The Pharmacy Contractor will maintain Patient Medication Records of the episodes of care and complete an auditable record of supply.
- 4.7 If appropriate, the Pharmacy Contractor will register the patient for CMS, complete a patient profile, pharmaceutical care risk assessment and complete a pharmaceutical care plan using the Pharmacy Care Record (PCR).
- 4.8 The Pharmacy Contractor will display patient literature approved by the Airways Managed Clinical Network (MCN).
- 4.9 The Pharmacy Contractor will sign and complete claim forms for each month and submit these monthly to the Primary Care Contracts Office.
- 4.10 Pharmacists will share relevant information with other healthcare professionals and agencies, in line with NHS Forth Valley Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy for Personal information

## **5. Training requirement**

- 5.1 Pharmacists offering the service should complete the NES COPD interactive resource and read 'Section 1.3 Management of exacerbations of COPD' in NICE COPD Guidelines.
- 5.2 Ideally, Pharmacies will be participating in the Forth Valley Community Pharmacy Smoking Cessation scheme.
- 5.3 Up to date information regarding the service will be available on the NHS Forth Valley SHOW community pharmacy page. The pharmacy contractor has a duty to ensure that pharmacists and staff involved in the provision of the service are aware of and operate within local guidelines.

## **6. Claims and payment**

- 6.1 Fees will be paid for the COPD treatment service as defined by NHS Forth Valley.
- 6.2 Payment for service provision shall be made on the submission of a fully completed NHS Forth Valley claim form. Information for audit and evaluation purposes may also be gathered and must be completed before any payment is made by NHS Forth Valley.
- 6.3 The Pharmacy Contractor will sign and complete and submit a claim form each month to the Primary Care Contracts Office.

## 7. Monitoring and evaluation

- 7.1 It is a requirement of the service that appropriate records are kept and maintained by the community pharmacy contractor to enable verification of service provision and training requirements and provide information to NHS Forth Valley for internal and external audit and evaluation purposes.
- 7.2 A standard operating procedure should be in place in the pharmacy and cover all aspects of service provision

## 8. Pharmacy premises criteria

- 8.1 The part of the pharmacy used for provision of the service provides a sufficient level of privacy and safety, ideally a private room or quiet area.
- 8.2 Pharmacy Contractor will display material and literature within the pharmacy as approved by the Airways MCN.
- 8.3 Participating pharmacies will agree to register with HIRS, and maintain a stock of leaflets and resources to complement the service.
- 8.4 The Pharmacy Contractor must stock sufficient quantities of amoxicillin 500mg capsules, doxycycline 100mg capsules and prednisolone 5mg tablets (enteric coated and plain) to fulfil requests made via the PGD.

## Background information

- Supply of Prednisolone through Community Pharmacies, NHS Forth Valley Protocol Number 301 version 5.
- Supply of Amoxicillin through Community Pharmacies, NHS Forth Valley Protocol Number 299 version 4.
- Guidance on Issuing Steroid Cards, Pharmacy Services, NHS Forth Valley, March 2007.
- Record of supply of rescue antibiotics and prednisolone, Primary Care Pharmacy Services, NHS Forth Valley
- Rescue antibiotics and prednisolone monthly claim form, Primary Care Pharmacy Services, NHS Forth Valley
- Medicine, Ethics and Practice Guide (latest edition) Royal Pharmaceutical Society, London.
- NHS Forth Valley Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy for personal information.

## Reference

1. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, NICE guidelines, 2010(<http://www.nice.org.uk> )
2. Global Initiative for Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease. Global Strategy for Diagnosis, Management and Prevention of COPD. 2015 ([www.goldcopd.com](http://www.goldcopd.com) )