

## 28 day Prescriptions



“A 28 day repeat prescribing interval is recognised by the NHS as making the best possible balance between patient convenience, good medical practice, and minimal drug wastage.”

Nationally and locally it is estimated that about 10% of medicines prescribed are wasted. By adopting a 28 day prescribing cycle, there is good evidence that this wastage can be significantly reduced and the associated savings used to better effect elsewhere within the NHS.

After discussing this with our Patient Participation Group (PPG), we are thus moving to a 28 day cycle for all medications prescribed here at Crossley Street, to enable us to join this drive to reduce wastage, in line with virtually all other GP practices within England. As a result, your medication amounts will change over the next few weeks and months as we implement this policy.

We understand that some people will feel that they wish to stay on 56 day or indeed 84 day cycles, as they may feel that there will be both a cost and convenience impact. However, through use of Pre Payment Certificates and modern, up to date Pharmacy based computer technology, these fears should be allayed.

### FAQs

#### **- I pay for my prescriptions, this will cost me more?**

If you receive more than 5 items per 4months, or 14 items in 12months, it will be cheaper for you to obtain a Prescription Pre Payment Certificate available from your Pharmacist. People over the age of 60, who are on regular prescriptions, do not pay for their prescriptions.

#### **- What if I require more than 28 days of medication because I will run out on holiday?**

In these exceptional situations, an advance issue of 28 days of medication MAY be given as well, as a separate item.

#### **- Won't it be harder for me to plan to order my repeat prescriptions because they all run out at different times?**

One of the huge benefits of a standard 28 day cycle is that it is easier for patients to have a coordinated series of prescriptions, so that multiple medications can be ordered all together, at the same time, for the same 28 day period, throughout the year.

**Thank you for helping us to implement this improvement in our practice prescribing policy.**