

## Increasing the use of electronic Repeat Dispensing

### Key messages for patients

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) works collaboratively with primary care staff to increase the use of electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD).

Our key messages will help you make the most of eRD in your area.

We hope you find these key messages useful. If you have any feedback or suggestions, please get in touch with us at: [nhsbsa.gpproviderassurance@nhs.net](mailto:nhsbsa.gpproviderassurance@nhs.net)

### Key messages

- eRD saves the NHS time and money by reducing the amount of paper processing required by GPs, pharmacists and the NHS Business Services Authority.
- Electronic prescriptions will save the NHS £300m by 2021.
- EPS has the potential to deliver significant benefits to patients while saving millions of pounds that could be re-invested in patient care. This is especially true for patients who get regular or repeat prescriptions, using Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD) – a process that allows regular medicines to be prescribed for suitable patients in batches of up to a year.
- Maximise eRD use in your area and encouraging patients to make the switch today.
- Encourage patients to nominate a pharmacy for EPS and eRD. This helps to improve the patient experience and provides continuity of care.

### Additional key messages for patients

- If you get regular or repeat prescriptions, you could save time by switching to Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD). Ask your GP or pharmacist to set it up for you.
- eRD sends your prescriptions electronically from your GP surgery to a pharmacy of your choice.
- You don't need a computer or electronic device to use eRD. Your GP or pharmacy will set it up for you.
- eRD allows your GP to prescribe your regular medicines for up to a year. Your regular prescriptions are stored securely on the NHS database, so they'll be ready at the pharmacy each time you need them.

- Collecting your prescriptions is even easier if you nominate a pharmacy of your choice. Ask your GP or pharmacist to set this up for you.
- Patients without a nominated pharmacy still receive a paper copy of their prescription listing what has been prescribed and a barcode.
- Using eRD you can:
  - save time by avoiding unnecessary trips or calls to your GP every time you need to order a repeat prescription
  - order or cancel your repeat prescriptions online (if your GP practice offers this service)
  - pick up your repeat prescriptions directly from your pharmacy without having to visit your GP
  - spend less time waiting for your prescription in the pharmacy or GP practice