**Electronic Repeat Dispensing**

**Exploratory Notes on NHS Number Data**

If you’ve requested data from our EPS Support Team, this document outlines the explanatory notes.

**Patients included in the data**

This analysis identifies patients aged 18 years or older on stable medications that are prescribed using EPS but not already electronic repeat dispensed. It shows patients who may be suitable for electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD) for the latest 12 month period.

It’s possible that patients identified may receive other products on an electronic repeat dispensed basis. It’s also possible that patients are not receiving the medications identified using eRD due to clinical or other reasons.

Stable medication is defined as follows: A patient has received a product in the same strength, based on the generic name of the drug (for example, Paracetamol 500mg tablets) in 10, 11 or 12 months of the latest 12 month period.

In selecting suitable items/patients, the following have been excluded:

* items that are electronic repeat dispensed
* dispensing doctor prescription items
* FP10MDAs prescription forms
* personally administered items
* patients receiving any Controlled Drug items during the analysis period
* appliance prescription items

**Data source**

Data has been sourced from the NHSBSA Information Services Data Warehouse.

The data is based on dispensed prescription items that were processed by us, not including items not dispensed, disallowed or returned back.

The data excludes items prescribed but not presented for dispensing or not submitted to NHS Prescription Services by the dispenser.

**Patient identification**

Results are limited to prescription items where the patient's NHS Number could be identified from the prescription.

The patient’s age is based on the age captured from the prescription form. If this has not been possible, it may be calculated based on the patient's date of birth and the month for which the prescription was submitted.

Results exclude patients whose age could not be identified. Patients may have received prescribing in more than one practice. However, their prescribing will only be shown for the practice that has requested the NHS Number data.

**Support**

Please contact us if you have any issues opening the emails: epssupport@nhsbsa.nhs.uk