

PPG Tabled Questions

10th November 2014

1. Have other patients experienced similar problems that my husband & myself often have? i.e. if more than 2 items are requested, more often than not, confusion over strength, amount & type of medication seems to occur, also prescription requests being lost without trace on several occasions.
 - *We are aware of this and are continually reviewing our prescribing process. We have just employed a Prescription Clerk who is due to start on 17th November who will hopefully help improve the way repeat medication requests are processed.*

2. What does the government's recent announcement of a payment to GP's of £55 for each new dementia diagnosis between now and the end of March mean for Paxton Green Group Practice? What will be the benefits for any patients diagnosed under this scheme?
 - *We have not received formal guidance as yet, so we don't know.*

3. Since the August PPG meeting there has been news of 3 proposals for changing patients' access to their GP practice. How does PGGP propose to respond to each?
 - a) Named GPs for all patients
 - *All patients will be given a named GP as per contractual guidance.*
 - b) No practice catchment area
 - *We have not received formal notification as yet.*
 - c) 7 day services
 - *We have not received formal notification as yet.*

4. Could you explain the advantages of electronic prescribing and how it works?

EPS (Electronic Prescription Service) enables prescribers - such as GPs and practice nurses - to send prescriptions electronically to a nominated dispenser (such as a pharmacy) of the patient's choice. This makes the prescribing and dispensing process more efficient and convenient for patients and staff Patients can nominate a pharmacy which may be close to their work.

 - *Less amount of paper usage*
 - *Improves medication safety*
 - *Saves time of transition for a prescription to be printed, signed and then for the pharmacy to collect.*

- *Quick and easy to use*

Patients can choose their nominated pharmacy of choice by registering and signing consent at their chosen pharmacy. The pharmacy will then notify the patients registered practice that this has been set up. Once the EPS is set up on a patient's GP records future prescriptions will be sent to the pharmacy electronically for both one off and repeat prescriptions.

Patients can cancel the EPS prescribing by either speaking to one of the receptionists at their registered practice or speaking to a member of staff at the nominated pharmacy.

Patients don't always have to use their nominated pharmacy on every occasion, if they wish to have their prescription printed out they can do so by letting the GP practice know before the prescription is issued.