

Wirral Health & Care Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust



MEDICINES DELIVERY SUPPORT

Dear Community Pharmacist,

As part of the Wirral COVID-19 response **Wirral Health and Care Commissioning** and Wirral University Teaching Hospital have worked together to fund a system wide medicines delivery service.

This is a local service, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to supplement any national arrangements. It will include collection of prescriptions from hospital, delivery of hospital only medicines following outpatient appointments and the delivery of community pharmacy dispensed medication if required.

It is intended to support community pharmacies prior to the announcement of further detail regarding national arrangements (Good Sam and Extended Access) and will be accessible as a resource to support staff shortages during the next few months or if community pharmacies require a driver once the extended access service is confirmed.

This service is intended to:

- Reduce the transmission of COVID -19 by supporting people to stay in their own home unless travel is necessary
- Ensure that patients in the vulnerable category group can remain in their own home
- Reduce footfall to protect our community pharmacy colleagues from infection
- Release community pharmacists time to focus on prescription checking and dispensing and over the counter and Think Pharmacy type advice
- Support the drug and alcohol recovery service to maintain supply chain
- Ensure hospital only medicines are delivered to reduce the risk to patients

Having piloted this service over the last week in 5 pharmacies locally we are now in a position to offer fully funded support to **all** Wirral Community Pharmacies for the following reasons:

- they have no delivery driver
- their delivery drivers are self- isolating or are sick
- they require additional support due to current workloads

It has been difficult to estimate demand and capacity and so if you need help can you please email melanie.carrol@nhs.net

Your email should include

- Name of the pharmacy
- Contact at the pharmacy & telephone number preferably mobile where we can easily contact you to discuss



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Attached is a copy of the Action Card we have produced (this is an Emergency Planning Version of a SOP) describing the process.

CCA pharmacies should liaise with their area manager before requesting support.

At the present time <u>we cannot offer delivery of Controlled drugs or fridge lines</u> but this may change.

Melanie Carrol Business Manager, Healthy Wirral Medicines Optimisation Programme