

August 10<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Pharmacist,

As we continue to move back to a more 'normal' way of life, we want to share with you our future plans for delivering treatment to people who use our services, and how we hope we can continue to work with pharmacies to mutually support one another now and in the future.

### **Prescription changes**

We continue to review each person's current prescription with a view to keeping them on the least restrictive dispensing regime. We will take into consideration their response to the relaxed pick-up and supervision arrangements, any risk factors and the guidance detailed in the national Orange Guidelines. People who are currently on a 14-day medication collection regime will be changed to a maximum of 7-day collection. This allows our service users who have done well with less restrictive dispensing arrangements to continue to benefit from less frequent pick-ups, while allowing us to work in line with best practice guidelines. This approach is intended for the long-term and provides sufficient flexibility in the event of future local or national lockdowns.

We are notifying you of this in advance to allow you to make any necessary preparations with regards to management of stock and workload. We intend to begin to make prescribing changes in the coming weeks. Please support Change grow live by helping service users adapt to this change by answering their questions or signposting them to us for further information.

### **Supervised consumption service provision**

We plan to put people on the least restrictive dispensing arrangements possible, however there will be occasions where supervised consumption is necessary, and we value the pharmacy teams role in keeping people and communities safe by providing this service.

We hope that pharmacies have had opportunity to risk assess and put into place arrangements to allow supervised consumption service provision to return to previous availability, in order to support those who really need it to help them be successful in adhering to their treatment plan.

## Spectrum Drug and Alcohol Recovery Services

St Martins House  
14 The Common  
Hatfield  
Hertfordshire  
AL10 0UR

T: 0800 652 3169

E: [Herts@cgl.org.uk](mailto:Herts@cgl.org.uk)

W: [www.changegrowlive.org](http://www.changegrowlive.org)



## SPECTRUM Drug and Alcohol Recovery Services

Hertfordshire

We understand you may have to make changes to be able to provide this service, and the use of your consultation room to deliver supervised consumption may not be possible. We want to assist pharmacies with resolving any issues preventing supervised consumption to resume in the usual way, and to find a way which works well for yourselves and our service users while maintaining confidentiality and dignity throughout. Please let us know how we can help you.

Please notify the prescriber if you receive a prescription requesting supervised consumption and you are not able to provide this so alternative arrangements can be put into place.

### Supervised consumption payments

After September 2020, supervised consumption payments will return to being paid based on supervised consumption activity for the month.

If you experience any problems with receiving your supervised consumption payments, please get in touch with the local Change Grow Live service directly and we will work to resolve any issues as soon as possible.

### Working Together

Feedback from pharmacy teams about our service user's welfare is vital – at times you may have more face-to-face contact with them than people who work in our services do. Please let the prescribing service know if you are at all concerned about anyone you are dispensing to or wish to discuss a person's wellbeing or treatment.

Many thanks for your continued hard work and support,

**Mohammed Fessal**  
Chief Pharmacist | Change Grow Live

*Spectrum Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service  
St Martins House  
14 The Common, Hatfield  
Hertfordshire, AL10 0UR*

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W: [www.changegrowlive.org/spectrum-hertfordshire-drug-alcohol-services](http://www.changegrowlive.org/spectrum-hertfordshire-drug-alcohol-services)



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Live**

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