

Spectrum Drug and Alcohol Recovery Services

St Martins House
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SPECTRUM
Drug and Alcohol
Recovery Services

Hertfordshire

November 9th, 2020

Dear Pharmacist,

As we approach the second national lockdown due to Covid-19 on Thursday 5th November, we would like to thank you again as a key partner for continuing to put service users first.

The ongoing pandemic is challenging for all, particularly for community pharmacy teams who have demonstrated great resilience throughout, despite the huge pressures placed upon them. We are committed to continue working together with community pharmacies to ensure that people that use our services are able to continue with their treatment plans.

Dispensing Arrangements

We continue to work in line with best practice guidance, detailed in the national Orange Guidelines and recent PHE guidance, ensuring that people are put on the least restrictive dispensing arrangements possible to minimise the primary risk of Covid. Service users have been risk assessed and provided MAT on dispensing regimes that are appropriate for them. There will therefore not be a change to larger volumes of medication supply during this lockdown period.

Supervised Consumption

Supervised consumption will be necessary in some cases, in particular during the titration phase of MAT. Discussions with community pharmacies have demonstrated they have resilience in their operating models that enable supervised consumption to be delivered in the small cases where it is required. We value the role community pharmacy plays in keeping people and communities safe by continuing to provide this service.

Payments

During the initial national lockdown in March pharmacies were in a very difficult situation and the ability to provide supervised consumption services was severely affected. Having had 8 months since then pharmacies across the country are now able to provide supervised consumption where requested and as such payments during this lockdown period will be linked to activity.



We work in partnership with:



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These are difficult times with unprecedented changes and so if there is absolutely anything we can do, either as a local service or as an organisation to support you during this time, please do let us know and we will do our utmost to help you in any way we can.

Thank you for your hard work and support,

Mohammed Fessal

Chief Pharmacist
Change Grow Live



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