

Arrangements for provision of recommended or prescribed medication

This local guidance might change as new information becomes available

1. Guidance

Established guidance for managing urgent dental problems should be followed where possible.

Ensure you tell patients (especially those you have not met before), your name and what to do if they have any questions or concerns after the remote consultation.¹

- **Record keeping guidance** from FGDP(UK) can be accessed at:
<https://www.fgdp.org.uk/guidance-standards/clinical-examination-and-record-keeping-0>
- **Prescribing guidance for analgesics and antibiotics** can be accessed from the national toolkit at:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dental-antimicrobial-stewardship-toolkit>
- **FGDP Antimicrobial Prescribing for Acute Dento-Alveolar Infections**
<https://www.fgdp.org.uk/antimicrobial-prescribing-standards/acute-dento-alveolar-infections>
- **Advice on ibuprofen and COVID-19:** *The Commission of Human Medicines (CHM) Expert Working Group on coronavirus (COVID-19) has concluded that there is currently insufficient evidence to establish a link between use of ibuprofen, or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), and susceptibility to contracting COVID-19 or the worsening of its symptoms.*

2. Principles

Before prescribing any drug, you must make an appropriate assessment of your patient's condition, prescribe within your competence and keep accurate records.² This includes ensuring you have an up to date medical history so that you have adequate knowledge of the patient's health. Video consultations or photographs may assist with this decision – see SDCEP triage guidance.

A remote prescription should only be given if there is no other viable option and it is in the patient's best interests.²

3. Remote prescribing

If you have already found ways of working remotely with your local pharmacies, please do continue to use them. The following suggestions are to assist those who have not yet done so. NHS Dentists can continue to prescribe drugs using paper prescriptions (NHS FP10D forms) – pharmacies have **not** yet been told to decline them.

Emergency prescribing procedures allow pharmacies to **choose to dispense** a medication against a **phone call, fax or email request, without sight of the original prescription**. They are required to ensure adequate safeguards exist to ensure the integrity of the original prescription request is maintained, and that a legal prescription (i.e. **signed and dated FP10D will be in his/her possession within 24 hours** (or up to 72 hours at bank holiday weekends).

Emergency prescriptions can only be made between registered prescriber (dentist) and pharmacist.

¹ <https://www.gmc-uk.org/ethical-guidance/ethical-guidance-for-doctors/prescribing-and-managing-medicines-and-devices/remote-prescribing-via-telephone-video-link-or-online>

² https://www.gdc-uk.org/docs/default-source/guidance-documents/guidance-on-prescribing-medicines.pdf?sfvrsn=2e82e39c_2

4 Remote Prescribing Process

Communication with local pharmacy

Agree with local pharmacy:

- methods for transmitting *prescription details* – eg scanning the prescription and sending via secure email address, such as the practice's nhs.net account
- Method to alert when prescription has been transmitted
- Wait time from transmission to collection

Note Use of a transmitted image via e-mail: even an nhs.net account is subject to various legislative risks, including safeguarding risks.

Remote triage consultation (telephone or video with the patient)

Tell the patient your name

Confirm you are talking to the patient/parent/guardian

Ensure you have a full medical history

Take full details of signs/symptoms. provisional diagnosis

Give advice, including what to do after the consultation

Record keeping

Including symptoms, provisional diagnosis and treatment

Record consent for the consultation was gained and safety netting advice given

Record details of where the prescription is to be dispensed and how the prescription is going to get there.

Prescribing / Dispensing

Complete an FP10D NHS dental prescription form



How does the patient collect their prescription from the pharmacy, following remote prescribing?

Asymptomatic low risk



Patient collects prescription from the pharmacy

Asymptomatic vulnerable or shielded patients



Someone else collects the medication from the pharmacy, or patients might require a delivery

COVID -19 symptoms or self-isolation



Someone else collects the medication from the pharmacy