

Prescribing Policy/Procedure.

Medication is prescribed, where possible, according to guidelines from learned bodies including NICE, RCGP, RCP, BHS etc.

All medication is prescribed by Dr Oakley. It must be noted that guidelines from different learned bodies are not uniform and can vary with time. (eg BHS & NICE regarding treatment for blood pressure, and NICE regarding treatment for Alzheimer's). In addition patients often present for treatment having been unsuccessfully treated elsewhere with drugs which were prescribed according to guidelines. Controlled drugs are not prescribed by this Practice.

Patients are discouraged from requesting repeat prescriptions for ANY medication. Patients are reviewed for ANY medication required after a maximum period of three months. Treatment with benzodiazepines is not initiated by this Practice. Antidepressant treatments are prescribed, in conjunction with counselling. Patients are reviewed always within four weeks.

Vaccines are administered by either Dr Oakley or by Heather Bratt- Rose (Midwife Practitioner).

Vaccines administered by Heather Bratt- Rose are under the clinical responsibility of Dr John Oakley. Patient record cards are completed at the time of the appointment and signed. Entries made by Heather Bratt- Rose are co-signed by Dr Oakley.

All emergency / non vaccine medication, dressings and vaccine consumables are ordered by telephone from AAH Pharmaceuticals using the codes in the "Branch Stock Coding List". Dr Oakley has held an account with this company for over twenty years. (Acc no: 24308044M)

The vaccines Havrix, HB Vax Pro, Twinrix, Varivax, Pneumovax and holiday vaccines are ordered as before from AAH.

Neisvac-C/Meningitis, Menitorix, Prevenar, Repevax and Infanrix/IPV are similarly ordered from Farillon. Dr Oakley has a long standing account with the company. (Acc no: 11161601)

Influenza vaccines (adult & paediatric) are ordered from Sanofi Pasteur MSD. (Acc no: 1200442)

The "un-licensed" vaccines, including single antigen Mumps, Measles, Rubella, IPV, are ordered by prior arrangement and with original written prescription on a "named patient" basis from Supplvax or Welbeck Pharmaceuticals. This meets MHRA approved "clinical need".

Each member of the team is permitted to receipt delivery of sealed containers of vaccines on arrival, and if appropriate IMMEDIATELY placed in 1 of the 3 LEC Pharmaceutical fridges. The containers are opened by Dr Oakley and the contents checked against the delivery note from the wholesaler and also the retained copy of the original order. This is retained to check against the monthly Statement of Account. This is then paid and entered into the Practice accounts.

These vaccines are expensive, difficult and time consuming to obtain. In addition Dr and Mrs Oakley have been required to make a large financial commitment because of the current need to order in bulk. Accordingly great care is taken when ordering to ensure that there has never been a need to dispose of any date expired vaccines.

Should the need arise, medicines and vaccines will be disposed of and recorded in accordance with the legislation in place at that time (currently by consignment to a specialist waste contractor via B'ham City Council Contract: 00166743).

Adverse reactions and drug errors, and the consequent treatment and outcome are recorded on the patient's records. They are entered into the "critical event" book. Severe reactions are reported to the Healthcare Commission and MHRA.

In the event of anaphylactic shock the first priority is to call the emergency services (999). The patient is placed in the recovery position with legs elevated. In the event of cardiac arrest Cardiopulmonary resuscitation is initiated.

Adrenalin 1:1000 (junior or adult Epipen as appropriate) is given intramuscularly if there are clinical signs of shock or airway constriction.

Issue date: 31/03/2008

Review date 31/0/2011