

## **How to make Repeat Dispensing work for your surgery**

### **Background**

- ✓ On average 1.3 million prescription items are issued in England daily.
- ✓ 70% of these prescriptions are for regular repeat medication.
- ✓ Repeat dispensing is one of the essential services of the new pharmacy contract.
- ✓ There are many examples demonstrating how a collaborative approach between GPs and pharmacists to introduce Repeat prescribing/dispensing has delivered benefits to GPs and patients.

### **What is a Repeat Dispensing service?**

- ✓ A GP can issue up to twelve months of prescriptions at one appointment for patients with well-controlled long term conditions.
- ✓ Only the master repeat prescription needs to be signed by the GP. The batch prescriptions do not need a signature.
- ✓ These prescriptions are held by the pharmacist, so that the patient does not need to come into the GP practice each month for a repeat script.
- ✓ Each month, the pharmacist will check the patient is stable and maintaining good compliance, then issue the next month's medication.
- ✓ If the patient has experienced any problems, they will be immediately referred to the GP.
- ✓ When the last prescription has been issued, the pharmacist refers the patient back to their GP for a medication review and re-issue of 12 months of prescriptions if appropriate.
- ✓ The service is ideal for patients that the GP judges to be stable and on medication that is unlikely to be changed.
- ✓ This service is offered by participating GPs and pharmacies.
- ✓ Patients need to agree to the service and complete an agreement form.

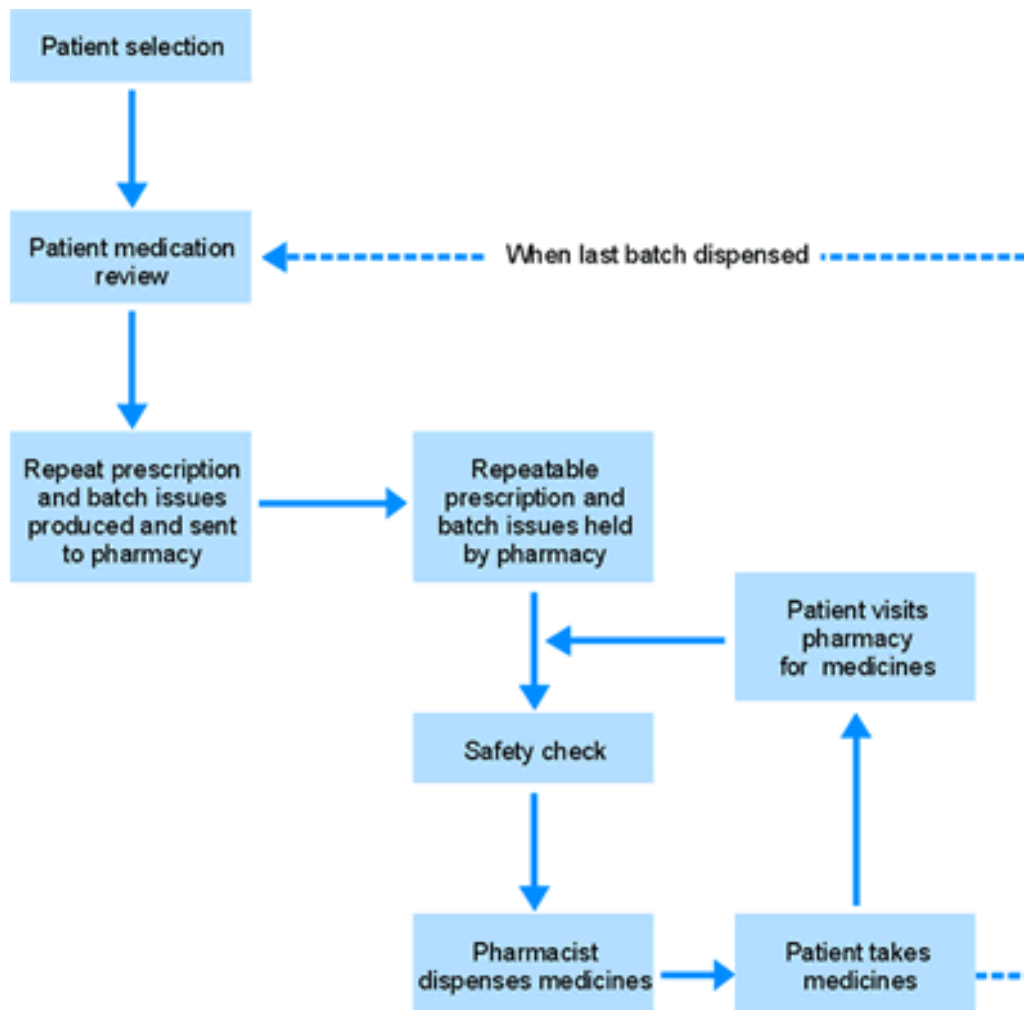
### **What are the benefits to GPs?**

- ✓ Reduces GP need to sign prescriptions
- ✓ Reduces unnecessary patient requests
- ✓ Frees up GP and surgery staff time
- ✓ Reduces the amount and cost of wasted medication
- ✓ Reduces urgent requests from patients due to running out of medication
- ✓ Workload is more easily managed with improved efficiencies

### **What are the benefits to patients?**

- ✓ Less visits to GP Surgeries to request or collect a repeat prescription
- ✓ Regular contact with a pharmacist who will check on patient compliance
- ✓ Saves patients time
- ✓ Patients do not run out of medication

## The Repeat Dispensing process



### Want to know more?

If you would like to implement Repeat Dispensing in your practice, the LPC has a wide range of resources and experience to help you.

Please contact the LPC Office at:

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