

Care Home Preparation for Medicines Reuse

Develop a standard operating procedure (SOP) to cover all aspects of medicines reuse

Ensure staff are aware of the SOP and have access to it when needed

Obtain permission from residents for medicines reuse – donation and/or receipt

Use the leaflet in appendix 3 and permission form in appendix 4. Record patient's wishes in their care plan

At the end of the month or when a resident dies review medicines prior to sending for destruction and consider if any medicine might be suitable for reuse

REMEMBER – medicines reuse is only for a crisis situation. Reuse will only be appropriate in limited circumstances for medicines required urgently

Arrange for risk assessment of the medicine for reuse

Medicines should be assessed by a pharmacist or pharmacy technician wherever possible. Use risk assessment of medicine for reuse form in appendix 5

Arrange for safe storage of any medicine suitable for reuse

These medicines should be stored separately to individual patient supplies and be clearly labelled medicines for reuse Any directions on the dispensing label should be obscured

Enter medicines for reuse on to the reuse log

Use medicines reuse log in appendix 6 and retain with the corresponding medication

For controlled drugs that may be reused transfer medicine from the patient specific page within the CD register to a medicine for reuse page

See example in appendix 9

Before reusing a medicine ensure individual risk assessment has been completed

Use risk assessment for resident requiring reuse of medicine in appendix 8
Follow flowchart for assessing the appropriateness of medicines reuse for an individual patient in appendix 1