



## Explanation of Services shown on the Cornwall Pharmacy Rotas

**Minor ailment scheme:** All pharmacies can provide and sell over-the-counter medicines to treat minor ailments. Pharmacies providing a Minor Ailment Service are able to provide treatment for the following common problems: Urinary tract Infection, Impetigo, Bacterial Conjunctivitis, Oral Thrush and Nappy Rash (a charge of £8.40 applies for patients who normally pay for prescriptions; free for exempt patients). Chloramphenicol eye drops are available to treat Bacterial Conjunctivitis. Fusidic acid drops have increased in price and therefore are no longer available on the Minor Ailment Service

**Emergency supply:** In an emergency, a pharmacist can supply prescription only medicines (POMs) to a patient (who has previously been prescribed the requested POM) without a prescription at the request of a patient. This emergency supply is not an NHS service and patients may therefore be asked to pay the cost of the medicine. This can lead to some patients seeking supplies or emergency prescriptions from urgent or emergency care providers or placing extra demand on GP appointments. When demand is high it may not be practical to obtain a prescription in a timely way to meet immediate need. The Community Pharmacy Emergency Supply Service allows the emergency supply of a patient's medicine out of hours at NHS expense in order to reduce the number of patients contacting urgent and emergency care providers. This may include both prescription-only and other medicines usually obtained on prescription by the patient from their GP. The emergency supply provisions permit the supply of sufficient quantities of most prescription only medicines for up to 30 days treatment. Exceptions apply for inhalers and creams / ointments, where a manufacturer's pack can be supplied. Schedule 1, 2 or 3 Controlled Drugs (except phenobarbitone or phenobarbitone sodium for epilepsy) cannot be supplied in an emergency. Over busy holiday periods during Christmas, Easter and Summer, the service may be extended to include provision of repeat medicines in-hours (this will be done in liaison with both LMC and LPC)

### **Gluten free food supply**

Rather than having to itemise gluten-free foods on a prescription, doctors are able to issue a special order card for a maximum number of points per month for up to a year.

- The pharmacist will discuss with the patient (or, in the case of children, the patient's representative/parent) to identify the products and quantities that the patient requires, following the national guidelines and recommendations
- The pharmacist will at his/her discretion, make the supply in accordance with the requirements of the gluten free scheme operating manual
- To be permitted within the scheme a product type will need a point value. The supply of pre-prepared meals, cakes, cake mixes and sweet biscuits is not allowed
- A charge equal to a prescription charge must be collected for each item from any patient who pays for their prescription.

**Specialist Medicines:** This enhanced service is intended to ensure the supply of specialist medicines for which the demand may be unpredictable; for example in palliative care, treatment of thrombosis and prophylaxis, tuberculosis, where intravenous antibiotics have been prescribed in the community, and the treatment of bacterial meningitis.