

MEDICINES USE REVIEW & PRESCRIPTION INTERVENTION

A GUIDE FOR PHARMACISTS IN WALES

Introduction

A new contract for community pharmacy was introduced in April 2005, details of which have been sent to all pharmacists in Wales.

Medicines Use Review and Prescription Intervention (MUR) is an advanced service which all pharmacists can provide. This newsletter is to remind pharmacists of the requirements of the advanced service, what they must do to provide it and how they can claim payment.

This newsletter doesn't give details of the service itself – ALL PHARMACISTS WHO WISH TO PROVIDE MUR SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE DETAILED SPECIFICATION. This should be available in the pharmacy, as well as from the contract websites detailed below.

How do I provide MUR

You should ask the following questions;

1. *Do the premises I work in meet the criteria? Has the LHB been informed?*
2. *Is the pharmacist performing MUR accredited to do so? Have they informed a LHB?*

Premises

Before a pharmacy can provide MUR, it must have a consultation area that;

1. The patient and pharmacist can sit down together
2. The patient and pharmacist can talk together without being overheard by other visitors to the pharmacy or staff undertaking normal duties
3. Should be clearly designated as an area for confidential consultations, distinct from the general public areas of the pharmacy.

The pharmacy must be in a position to provide all of the essential services (excluding those where responsibility for provision is dependant on other organisations).

When a contractor is satisfied their premises meet these requirements, they should submit the form *PS-AS-1 - Contract Premises Listing* to their Local Health Board. This informs the LHB that the premises meet the above criteria and the pharmacy intends to provide MUR.

The pharmacy does not have to wait for approval from the LHB before they can start providing MUR, however the LHB may decide to monitor compliance with the required standards at a later date.

MUR can be provided from premises other than the pharmacy (for example, a nursing home). However, prior permission must be sought from the LHB before this is done.

Accreditation of pharmacist

To provide MUR, a pharmacist must have passed an assessment that demonstrates their competency to do so. This assessment must be based on the nationally agreed competencies and provided by a Higher Education Institute. Such an assessment is available from Welsh School of Pharmacy, details to be found at <http://www.cf.ac.uk/phrmy/WCPPE/>. However, there are many other courses available, all of which are valid in Wales. A list of courses can be found at www.psn.org.uk.

A pharmacist wishing to provide MUR must inform the LHB that they are accredited. This is done by forwarding a copy of their certificate and the form *PS-AS-1 Pharmacist Listing* to the LHB. Again, approval is not required from the LHB.

This only has to be done once. The pharmacist's name will then be placed on an All-Wales list which allows them to perform MURs on suitably accredited premises anywhere in Wales.

Payment

Pharmacist contractors should submit *PS-AS-1 MUR Claim Form* to the Business Services Centre.

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to re-register in every LHB I work in?

No. Once you have forwarded details of your accreditation to any LHB in Wales you will be placed on the All-Wales list of accredited MUR pharmacists.

What if I have notified a Primary Care Trust in England.

You will have to separately notify an LHB in Wales. Likewise, if you have notified a LHB in Wales you will still have to notify any PCT in England you wish to provide MUR from.

Where can I find more information about Medicines Use Review?

There are a number of sources of information. Each pharmacy should have an information folder from Community Pharmacy Wales that contains details of the service. More details are at the PSNC website, www.psn.org.uk, or at the Wales pharmacy contract site indicated above. The Welsh Centre for Postgraduate Pharmaceutical Education can provide information on the assessment process.

I am a locum. Can I provide MUR?

Yes. You should complete the form as above and send it in to any LHB you normally work in. MUR can be then provided from any certified premises. The payment will be made to the pharmacy owner. It will be for the individual to negotiate any local payment.

Details, including forms are available from your LHB or from
<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/pharmacycontract>