



Split Prescriptions Factsheet for GP practice staff

A split prescription is one which is separated into an electronic and a paper prescription. This occurs when a patient has a nomination in place and one or more items cannot be sent electronically.

A prescription item cannot be sent electronically if

- It is a schedule 1,2,3 controlled drug or
- It is an item that is not mapped in your systems drug dictionary.

Top tips...
Check to see if the latest drug dictionary is running on your system.

Top tips...
Prescribe in units, not in packs. For example: 200 dose instead of one inhaler. 500mls instead of one pack of 500ml.

Top tips...
Find out how to identify items which can be sent by EPS. On some systems there will be a logo next to the items in the pick list.

Top tips...
When authorising repeat prescriptions update your 'repeat master' with dm+d mapped items ensuring they can all be processed electronically.

There are some options available.

- Replace the item with another description of the same product that is dm+d mapped and can be sent through EPS.

An example of this would be a patient having a repeat template with an unmapped product e.g. Glyceril trinitrate 400micrograms/dose sublingual spray. Glyceril trinitrate 400micrograms/dose aerosol sublingual spray and Glyceril trinitrate 400micrograms/dose pump sublingual spray are both available as valid dm+d concepts. The prescriber would need to choose either the aerosol or pump for the patient to enable this to go via EPS.

- Split the prescription. Send some items electronically and print a paper FP10 prescription for the other items.
- Do not split the prescription. Print a paper FP10 prescription for all the items after discussing with the patient.

Top tips...
Add a note to the electronic prescription advising the pharmacist that a paper one has also been generated and to make arrangements for it to be collected.

Top tips...
You can prescribe by individual flavour or use a generic flavourless description and apply the 'AF' (assorted flavours) endorsement. For example: nutritional supplements could be prescribed as individual flavours or as non-flavoured with the 'AF' option selected.