

Address

Dear Appliance Contractor

**Supply of Prescriptions for Appliances for Patients Registered at xxxxx Surgery**

We are writing to inform you that we will no longer be issuing retrospective prescriptions for appliances when requested by yourselves.

Under the new Dispensing Appliance Contractor Regulations, supplies should only be made to patients without a prescription in the following circumstances:

**'Urgent supply without a prescription:** in the case of urgency, the DAC or pharmacy contractor may supply an appliance if so asked to do so by a prescriber so long as the prescriber undertakes to give the DAC or pharmacist a non-electronic prescription form or non-electronic repeatable prescription in respect of the appliance requested within 72 hours. Alternatively, the prescriber must transmit to the ETP service an electronic prescription within 72 hours.'

Prescriptions should also be requested by the patient, carer, continence specialist nurse, stoma specialist nurse, hospital or district nurse, rather than by the contractor, so that appropriate governance systems are in place. The practice are able to deal with prescription requests quickly and receive requests in a variety of ways, so timeliness of issuing prescriptions has not been found to be a problem. Alternatively, repeat dispensing prescriptions could be arranged, which would enable supplies to be made over a longer period.

Please find enclosed a copy of the practice guidelines for issuing prescriptions for appliances. If you have any further queries, please contact the surgery.

Yours faithfully