

## Continence Prescribing – Top Tips for Community Nursing Teams & Prescription Clerks'

### Key Message:

It is expected that prescribers will preferentially use the products listed in the Derbyshire Continence Appliance Guidelines although it is recognised that a small number of patients may need items that are not included. Accurate assessment including individual's circumstances, continence history and diagnosis must be established wherever possible with referral to a specialist if appropriate. The management of individuals with indwelling catheters should include regular review of its necessity to prompt removal of catheter.

### When ordering a prescription

- Include full details of product required to ensure the correct size, type, quantity and gender (for catheters).
- The brand and manufacturer should be stated to ensure continuity of supply. DO NOT prescribe generically because of the differences between individual products.
- Avoid the term 'original pack' (OP). Pack sizes differ between products and patients may receive inappropriate amounts if the quantity is not stated.
- When new products are being tried, the smallest amount required should be prescribed to minimise wastage.
- Prescribers will not provide retrospective prescriptions unless as a result of an emergency situation. For more information please see guidance on [Prescribing in Primary Care](#).

*Prescription requests from community nursing teams and care homes may be received on Derbyshire Continence Product Request Forms which includes the preferred product names and codes*

(download and print for reference)

[http://www.derbyshiremedicinesmanagement.nhs.uk/clinical-guidelines/chapter\\_7/](http://www.derbyshiremedicinesmanagement.nhs.uk/clinical-guidelines/chapter_7/)

Check the client has a catheter passport and page 12 of the passport has been completed

- Reason for catheterisation
- Date of first catheterisation
- Catheter type and size, and product code
- Leg bag product description and code (if being used)
- Night bag product description and code
- Valve product description and codes (if being used)

If any of the products previously supplied are not included in the guideline and it is appropriate to change i.e. there has been no specialist assessment stating that certain product(s) are advised, please discuss the change to guideline preferred products with the client and update the catheter passport accordingly













***Remember it's OK to switch products for clients discharged from hospital provided there has been no specialist assessment***

*Patient Urinary Catheter Passport*

[NHS Improvement Urinary catheter tools](#)

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If you think the prescription request is too soon / excessive, Systm1 includes formulary messages to indicate usual expected use to guide you

...m (CliniSupplies Ltd)   
 2litre (CliniSupplies Ltd)   
 ROSYS INTI   
 ROSYS INTI   
 ROSYS INTI   
 T 500ml bag, long tube (CliniSupplies Ltd)   
 50ml bag,  **Other Formulary (core Continence formulary 2015 2):**  
 100ml bag,  1 box every 2 months. Bags to be used for 5-7 days - 10 device  
 50ml bag, long tube (CliniSupplies Ltd)   
 ROSYS INTI   
 ROSYS INTI   
 ROSYS INTI 

### Average quantities to prescribe for ONE month are:

Product	Type	Usual monthly quantity	Things to consider
Catheters	Rusch Aquaflate PTFE coated short term use 1-4 weeks	ONE (keep ONE spare at all times)	Requests for 3 or more indwelling catheters that are usually changed every 3-12 weeks should be considered excessive and queried with the person making the request
	Rusch Brilliant aquaflate, Sympacath All silicone, hydrogel coated long term use 3-12 weeks	Frequency of request dependent on catheter change. 5-12 weeks	Review needed if this catheter is requested on a monthly basis
Catheter gel	Optilube Active CHG	ONE (plus ONE spare at all times)	6ml for women, 11ml for men. One syringe used for each indwelling catheter change, Prescribe one syringe per catheter dispensed
Catheters	Single use catheters for intermittent self catheterisation (ISC)	Up to 5-6 boxes of 30	Patients who have been issued quantities >6 packs (of 30) per month with no recent continence nurse review should be considered for referral for specialist review: Continence Advisory Service, Alfreton Primary Care Centre Alfreton. Tel: 01773 546868
Catheter Valves	For use instead of a leg bag	1 box of 5	Changed every 5-7 days, Will require a night bag
Sheaths	All	1 box of 30	Changed one to three days (more frequent changing indicates a review may be needed)
Leg bags (Day)	Sterile drainable	Five bags/month BUT should be supplied in boxes of 10	Changed every 5-7 days therefore one box of 10 bags should last 2 months. Requests for quantities greater than 10 should be considered excessive and queried with the person making the request.
Night bags	Sterile drainable	Five bags/month BUT should be supplied in boxes of 10	For use by clients in their own home/access to their own bathroom facilities. Changed every 5-7 days therefore one box of 10 bags should last 2 months. Requests for quantities greater than 10 should be considered excessive and queried with the person making the request.
Night bags	Non - Sterile drainable (single use)	3 packs of 10 30 bags per month	Changed every night – for care home residents and community hospital wards

### Support systems

ProSys leg bag sleeves (washable by hand)	1 pack of 4 last 4-6 months
ProSys Retainer straps (washable by hand)	1 pack of 5 last 4-6 months
Prosys catheter bag straps	1 pack of 10 should last 4 – 6 months

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**Please do not accept 3<sup>rd</sup> party prescription requests from a dispensing appliance contractor e.g. Fittleworth, Clinidirect, Charter, Nightingale, Bullens, Scripteasy.**

**Prescriptions should be requested by patients or carers where it is available via the medication ordering line.**

**For Southern Derbyshire Medicines Order Line (Mon – Fri 9am – 4pm) dial 0115 855 0260**

**For North Derbyshire Medicines Order Line (Mon – Fri 9am – 4pm) dial 01246 588 860**

**The Derbyshire Continence Product Request form – please process the prescription request in the usual manner as described above, checking amounts, frequency and if review is needed.**

**Prescription request from a patient – if they struggle to identify the exact product(s) they are trying to order, ask them to look at their catheter passport which should include all the details needed.**