

Dear Practice Manager,

## **Anticipatory Prescribing (Just in Case) Bags**

### **What are they and what are they for?**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, Anticipatory Prescribing (Just in Case) bags will be available in Oxfordshire. The Bags are our locally adapted version of a nationally used initiative to make anticipatory prescribing easier. It's about anticipating the key symptom control problems experienced in the dying phase and ensuring sufficient supplies of injectable anticipatory medication are available in the home before they are needed. The CCG, Hospices, GPs, Pharmacy and Community Nursing representatives have been working together to introduce the Bags throughout Oxfordshire.

### **Why do we need them?**

It can be hard to predict when someone will experience a change in symptoms outside of the immediate dying phase. Not being able to access appropriate medication can be a cause for admission to hospital and can prevent patients from dying in a place of their choosing, as well as causing additional unnecessary anxiety and stress to the patient, their carer and their family and to healthcare staff. The Bags allow us to be prepared for a change in condition rather than responding after the event.

### **Who will be using them?**

The Policy and Standard Operating Policy (SOP) has been drawn up to enable community nursing staff to administer medication and keeping medication in the patients home makes it accessible to Out Of Hours medical staff too. Recording the presence of a Bag in the home in the Care Summary will ensure 'out of hours' providers and community nurses are kept informed.

### **What will you be getting?**

Each practice is receiving a stock of **5 Bags** plus a copy of the SOP. Each bag will contain a prescription sheet (the Direction to Administer form), administrations record, a patient information leaflet and some prescribing tips. There is also an Audit form for feedback when the Bag has been used – please send any completed questionnaires to:

**Delivery and Localities**  
**End of Life Project Lead**  
**Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group**  
**5510 John Smith Drive**  
**Oxford Business Park South**  
**Oxford**  
**OX4 2LH**

**(Addressed envelope for internal mail use included in bag)**

Or alternatively **Email to;** [apbag@oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk](mailto:apbag@oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk)

### **What do you do with them?**

Please place in your Surgery somewhere accessible and inform the Doctors and staff where they are. Some practices keep them near other relevant documents e.g DNACPR purple forms.

The documentation is within the bag but will be able to be produced electronically as well.

### **Replacement Bags**

**More Bags will be available from the CCG: when you are getting low and to request more, please contact: [apbag@oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk](mailto:apbag@oxfordshireccg.nhs.uk).**

**If you are a large practice and would like more initially or would like more information – please contact us on the above email.**

Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) and Supportive and Palliative Care Indicators Tool (SPICT™) documents can be found at the bottom of the following page on the OCCG Intranet:

<http://occg.oxnet.nhs.uk/GeneralPractice/Pages/AnticipatoryPrescribing.aspx>

Thank you very much

Oxfordshire CCG