

Equality Impact Assessment Template: Please complete alongside the guidance document

<b>Title of work:</b>  <b>SURPLUS MEDICATION POLICY FOR MEDICATION ORDERING AND MANAGING MEDICINES IN CARE HOMES</b>	<b>Date of completion:</b> <b>09/05/2024</b>	<b>Completed by:</b> <b>Tracy Sutherland (Prescribing Support Nurse)</b>
<b>Description of work:</b> Introduce a policy for reduction of surplus medication in care homes		
<b>Outcome of work:</b> Implementation of the policy so that surplus medication in care homes is reduced and the documentation is robust and auditable		
<b>Who:</b> <b>Stakeholders:</b> Care Home Staff, Care Home residents', Pharmacists, Pharmacy Support Workers, GP Practice staff, Community Pharmacies		

**How do you know:**

A pilot study was undertaken whereby the pharmacy technicians went in to the care homes and carried out audits of the medication. The feedback from the pilot were:

- There was better communication between the homes and the GP practices as the pharmacy technicians were able to speak to the relevant GP practice staff quicker.
- There was also a reduction in the amount of surplus ordering as changes were able to be made in amounts being requested.
- The rotation of stock improved and outdated stock returned for destruction

**What will the impact of this work be?**

A reduction in the amount of surplus medication and a greater flow of necessary data between the care home and the prescriber so that the resident continues to receive the most appropriate and proportionate care. The cost of unnecessary medication is reduced as there will be a check on the amount and need for the medication is checked

**Given all of the above what actions, if any, do you plan to take?**

Provide training on the implementation of the policy to Care Home Staff and also Pharmacy Technicians. Independent Care Homes to be given a copy of the policy document so that if they don't already have a policy within their care home they can use the document as a guide/template to create their own or utilise NHS Highland policy as a SOP for their Care Home

**Approved by:**

Sarah Buchan (Director of Pharmacy)

Thomas Ross (Associated Director of Pharmacy)

Findlay Hickey (Area principle Pharmacist)

