Tuesday 18th November 2025

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to update you on an important change to prescribing within St Gemma's Hospice Community and Outpatient Services.

We are moving to Electronic Prescribing Service (EPS) functionality for our community patients.

EPS will:

- Streamline the prescribing process for patients and staff
- Reduce administrative workload for GP practices by minimising prescription requests sent from St Gemma's
- Improve patient experience with faster and more reliable access to medicines

Scope of prescribing:

- We will not issue repeat medications; however, we may suggest a dose change – we would communicate this with you and/or issue the initial change as an acute prescription
- We will not prescribe using any templates you may be using (e.g. EPaCCs), due to our SystmOne setup
- The scope of practice for NMPs will not change – they are still only able to prescribe drugs within their remit so there may be occasions when you are asked to prescribe
- Some members of the team are not prescribers, and they will need to request medications in the way they always have via the GP
- We will not routinely change a patient's nominated pharmacy, but we can issue one-off nominations at the patient's request, or if they do not have a nominated pharmacy set.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

Dr Mike Stockton - Chief Medical Officer and Consultant in Palliative Medicine