




Procedure for the Storage of Re-Used Medicines During the Covid-19 Pandemic

This procedure only applies to medicines that have:

-  Been supplied to residents while in a care home or a hospice
-  Not been removed from that care home or hospice setting (other than for short periods of up to 24 hours)
-  Been stored in accordance with good practice guidance on storing medicines

It applies to all medicines, including tablets, liquid medicines, injections (e.g. analgesics, insulin), creams and inhalers, medicines that are in sealed or blister packs and when the criteria in Form 3 are met.

- 1** Place any medicines that might be re-used into a sealed container marked as 'resident/patient returns'.
- 2** Only use this stock when the medicine cannot be obtained from the normal supply chain (i.e. Pharmacy supply in accordance with a written prescription).
- 3** If the medicine to be re-used is a Controlled Drug that requires safe custody, the additional storage requirements for Controlled Drugs still apply.

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The Manager/senior person should assess the storage arrangements for medicines currently self-administered by residents, if they are medicines likely to be considered for re-use. It may be more appropriate at this time for the care home to manage storage.

IMPORTANT

- Re-use of medicines should only be within a single care home/hospice setting.
- Medicines identified for re-use should not be transferred to another care home or hospice, even when they are part of the same parent organisation.