



Understanding your Dossette/Monitored Dosage System (MDS) Process.

Edlesborough Surgery have changed all Dossette/MDS patients to 28-day (monthly) prescriptions. We changed the prescribing to reduce medicine wastage and stop incorrect and unsafe ordering of medication(s), in addition allowing family members and care givers to re-order on a patient's behalf through the NHS APP.

Your prescription is sent electronically to your nominated Pharmacy.

The Pharmacy Pharmacist will perform a "Needs Assessment" to determine whether it is clinically appropriate to continue providing you with Dossette/MDS box(es).

NOTE: Continuation of Dossette/MDS box(es) cannot be enforced by Edlesborough Surgery it is entirely the responsibility of the Pharmacist and they take the responsibility for that decision

What is a "Needs Assessment"?

A "Needs Assessment" is a tool to help the Pharmacist to decide on your needs as a patient, and how best to adjust your supply of medication to enable a patient to take their medication correctly, in the safest way possible.

The Pharmacist will ask questions to help them establish how well you are managing or not managing with your medication. You can expect to be asked about your dexterity, memory, swallowing, vision, routines, and medication also considering your ability to read instructions and labels. The Pharmacist will review your medication(s) and how frequently you take them.

The Pharmacist may decide to provide you with Dossette/ MDS box(es), or he may suggest that a Medication Administration Record (MAR) chart is more suitable.

"Needs Assessment" & Equality Act

A Needs Assessment is performed in conjunction with the requirements of the Equality Act (EA) 2010.

The requirement of the EA has always been to "make reasonable adjustments" for individuals with disabilities, and the provision of unlicensed medicines **, additional labour and costly equipment required for monitored dosage systems may, by an individual Pharmacy, be deemed as beyond reasonable.

Pharmacies may therefore seek to offer alternative mechanisms to support patients, such as reminder charts, large print labels etc. It is also important to note that the Equality Act 2010 only applies to the patient. Pharmacies have frequent requests for Dossette/MDS to support carers, and as such the act of having a carer may be considered an appropriate adjustment to support the patient to take their medicines.

NOTE: Dossette/MDS box(es) are not a substitute for lack of training by paid-for carers.

** For most medicines removal and supply outside of their original packaging (e.g. Dossette Box) is outside of their authorisation hence, making them unlicensed.

Discuss with your Nominated Pharmacy

As described above the decision to provide your medication in a Dossette/ MDS box(es) is entirely that of your nominated Pharmacy. Any queries or questions need raising with the Pharmacy in the first instance.

NOTE: Your nominated Pharmacy may want to charge a fee for dispensing your medication(s) in Dossette/ MDS box(es) form. Alternatively, the Pharmacy may also refer you on to another Pharmacy in your area if they feel they are unable to accommodate your needs.

Pharmacies

Please note this is not an exhaustive list and Edlesborough Surgery is not responsible for your choice of nominated Pharmacy.

Pharmacies Local to Edlesborough & Pitstone Surgery

- Edlesborough Pharmacy, 11 Cow Lane, Edlesborough, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 2HT 01525 223181 <https://www.nhs.uk/services/pharmacy/edlesborough-pharmacy/XFNF16>
- Windmill Pharmacy, 19-21 High Street, Ivinghoe, LU7 9EP 01296 706280 <https://www.nhs.uk/services/pharmacy/windmill-pharmacy/X107042>

Other Local Pharmacies

- Asda, Dunstable 01582 697021
- Grovebury Pharmacy, Leighton Buzzard 01525 378993
- Jhoots Pharmacy, Dunstable 01582 600268
- Langdale Pharmacy, Dunstable 01296 706280
- Markyate Pharmacy 01582 840602
- Peak Pharmacy, Leighton Buzzard 01525 383686
- Tesco, Leighton Buzzard 0345 6779421
- West St Pharmacy, Dunstable 01582 699854

Online Delivery

- Boots Prescription Delivery Service <https://www.boots.com/prescription-support/prescription-delivery-service>
- Pharmacy2U <https://www.pharmacy2u.co.uk/>
- PillTime <https://pilltime.co.uk/>

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