

## **COVID-19 – Prescription Request Changes**

In view of the current COVID-19 situation pharmacies are seeing an unprecedented activity. As a consequence there is already strain on the medicines supply chain causing shortages many of which are preventable.

Please can you help us by doing the following to ensure the most vulnerable patients receive the medications that they need:

- We are unable to prescribe greater quantities than the normal pattern.
- We cannot prescribe earlier.
- We cannot prescribe inhalers for patients who have not requested an inhaler for more than 12 months unless they are symptomatic and clinically appropriate.
- We cannot prescribe more than one inhaler. Pharmacies will only dispense one inhaler per prescription to protect supplies.
- We cannot prescribe any just-in-case paracetamols or antibiotics