

# Stoma Prescribing Guidelines and Formulary



## **Introduction**

The aim of this document is to provide guidance on the appropriate prescribing of stoma products. It is important that stoma appliances are prescribed appropriately to reduce the incidence of skin complications, leakage and infection, and to avoid overordering or waste. Following assessment with a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in stoma care, patients will be provided with products that are necessary and appropriate.

New stoma patients will be discharged from hospital with at least 2 weeks supply of products.

They will have contact with a Specialist Stoma Care Nurse within 7-14 working days of discharge. The nurse will support the patient to decide on the most appropriate supply route for their appliance products; Community Pharmacy, Dispensing GP or Dispensing Appliance Contractor (DAC).

On discharge all new stoma patients are assessed dependent on co-morbidities, mobility, access to transport etc., to receive post-operative follow up care either by a community stoma care nurse attached to a DAC or to be seen by the stoma care team in the trust outpatient department.

For the first 6 weeks the patients' stoma requirements may change as the healing process continues and prescriptions within this time will be requested according to need.

## **Overall aims:**

1. To ensure that each person with a stoma is using appropriate products that contribute to independent stoma management and promote improved quality of life reducing problems such as skin complications due to leakage.
2. Reduce over-ordering and over-prescribing with a subsequent reduction of waste and cost savings.
3. Provide a source of reference and support to GPs, pharmacists, medicine management teams and administration staff regarding product choice and quantities.
4. Improve accuracy of stoma products prescribed for each patient on digital record systems such as EPS.
5. Promote multi-disciplinary team working, resulting in a better patient experience.

## **Guidelines for GP Practices**

1. Patients should be reviewed regularly by a CNS in stoma care when needed to ensure products remain fit for purpose. All new patients will be

assessed for their product needs within the first year, the most significant changes to product use would be in the first 6 weeks. After one year product use would only be altered if medical need or circumstance change, in line with the local formulary.

2. All prescriptions for stoma appliances and accessories should be issued on a monthly basis and in line with local prescribing guidelines
3. Ensure that a patient receives a stoma nurse review if they present with a stoma related problem or if they request an increased quantity of products.
4. New appliance or accessory requests must be approved by a stoma care nurse before being prescribed. Patients who request items from the list of products that should not be routinely prescribed, must be referred to a stoma nurse before a prescription is issued.
5. Ensure that patients who use the Prescription Ordering Direct service (POD) order products from their practice; they can continue to receive their prescriptions from their Dispensing Appliance Contractor (DAC).
6. Retrospective prescribing is not supported, unless the prescriber has agreed to an emergency supply.
7. Ensure the DAC is informed of product changes/reductions.
8. Only issue prescriptions if requested by the patient/carer and not by the DAC. Arrange a review if new products are requested.
9. Stoma bags (pouches) and flanges need to be individually tailored and hence may require an off-formulary product. For these prescriptions, the prescriber should check the quantities being requested are reasonable.
10. Once a patient's stoma is "closed", all stoma products and appliances should be removed from acute or repeat prescription templates.

### **The following are not routinely commissioned for patients with stomas:**

- Deodorants. Household air fresheners or odour neutralisers should be sufficient. Mini versions of air fresheners/neutralisers are available which may be more appropriate. Patients should be advised to buy them if required.
- Skin cleansers are not clinically necessary. Warm water cleanses peristomal skin effectively.
- Underwear (Excluding hernia support underwear e.g., SuportX and Level 3 supportive belts). These are not usually required on prescription and can be purchased if the patient wishes. Hernia prevention wear or management of hernia (support wear) will be prescribed on an individual basis. The CNS in stoma care or specialist fitter will assess specific measurement of requirements (acute prescription only). If used for prevention: 2 garments per year; Actual herniation: 3 garments per year.
- Pouch covers. Patients requiring filters, pouch covers, closures should be referred to CNS in stoma care to assess for a more suitable product. Barrier cream. This can prevent pouches adhering to skin.

- Combinations of spray and wipes of the same product. Both not required as they perform the same task.
- Lubricating deodorants. Baby oil as a spray is a cost-effective alternative.
- Leakage detection systems.

### **Usual accessories under the guidance of CNS Stoma Care**

- Hydrocolloid skin protectors: 30 x 1 wipes. Used maximum of once a day even if bag changed more frequently. Only needed if skin is sore. For short term use only – acute prescription only.
- Medical adhesive remover spray: 1-3 x50mls. Used to prevent skin-stripping, keeping surrounding skin in good condition. 1 bottle per 30 bags.
- Adhesive Remover wipes: Quantity is same as bags quantity. Used to prevent skin stripping, keeping surrounding skin in good condition.
- Adhesive paste: 2x 60g. Only by recommendation by stoma nurse Used for extra security to create level site for bag - quantity can vary - depending on how often bag is changed. Occasionally stoma team may recommend more than 2x60g per month
- Protective Powder: Not for regular use. Only by recommendation by stoma nurse. Used for extra security to create level site for bag. The quantity can vary depending on how often bag is changed. Occasionally CNS may recommend more than 2x60g per month.
- Stoma washer/seal: If stoma is in tricky position or flat to fill creases or aid wear time 1 per bag. If stoma is in tricky position or flat to fill creases or aid wear time 1 per bag.

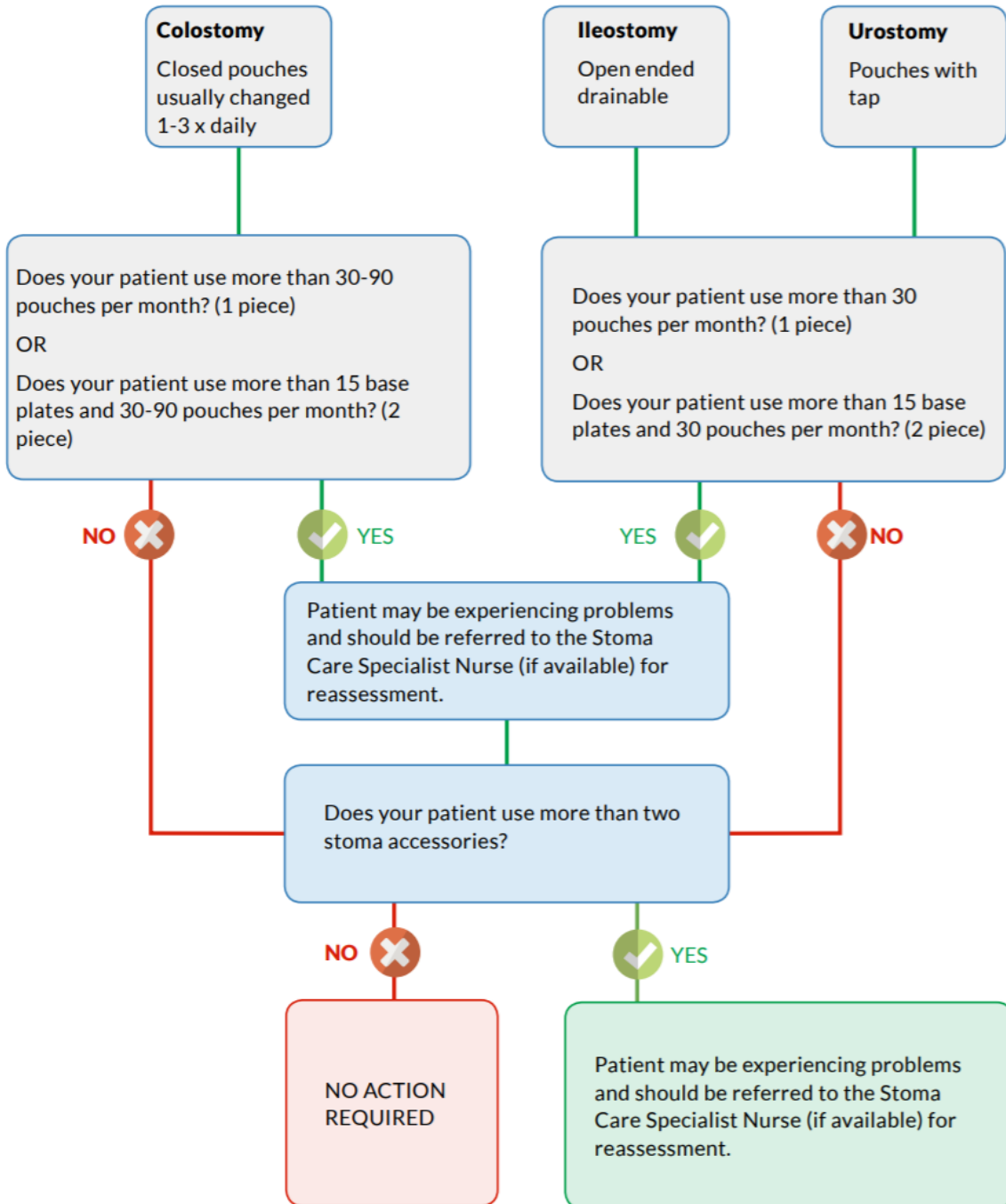
### **Appropriate quantities and use for stoma items**

<b>Appliance</b>	<b>Quantity per Month</b>	<b>Prescription Directions</b>	<b>Normal Usage</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Colostomy bags	30-90 bags	Remove and discard after use	1 – 3 per day	Not re-usable. Can be 1 or 2 piece
Ileostomy bags	10-30 bags	Drain as required. Use new bag every 1-3 days	1 every 1 to 3 days	Drainable. Can be 1 or 2 piece
Urostomy bags	20-30bags	Drain as required. Use new bag every 1-3 days	1 every 1 to 3 days	Drainable. Can be 1 or 2 piece. Require additional night bag
Night drainage bags	4 bags (1 box of 10)	Use a new bag every 7 days	1 per week	Drainable. Rinse as directed by

	bags every 2-3 months)			stoma care nurse
Flange (for 2 piece system)	15 flanges	Change every 2-3 days	1 every 2 to 3 days	The flange is not changed at every bag change
Bag belts	3-6 per year	Usage may vary	Variable	Washable and re-useable

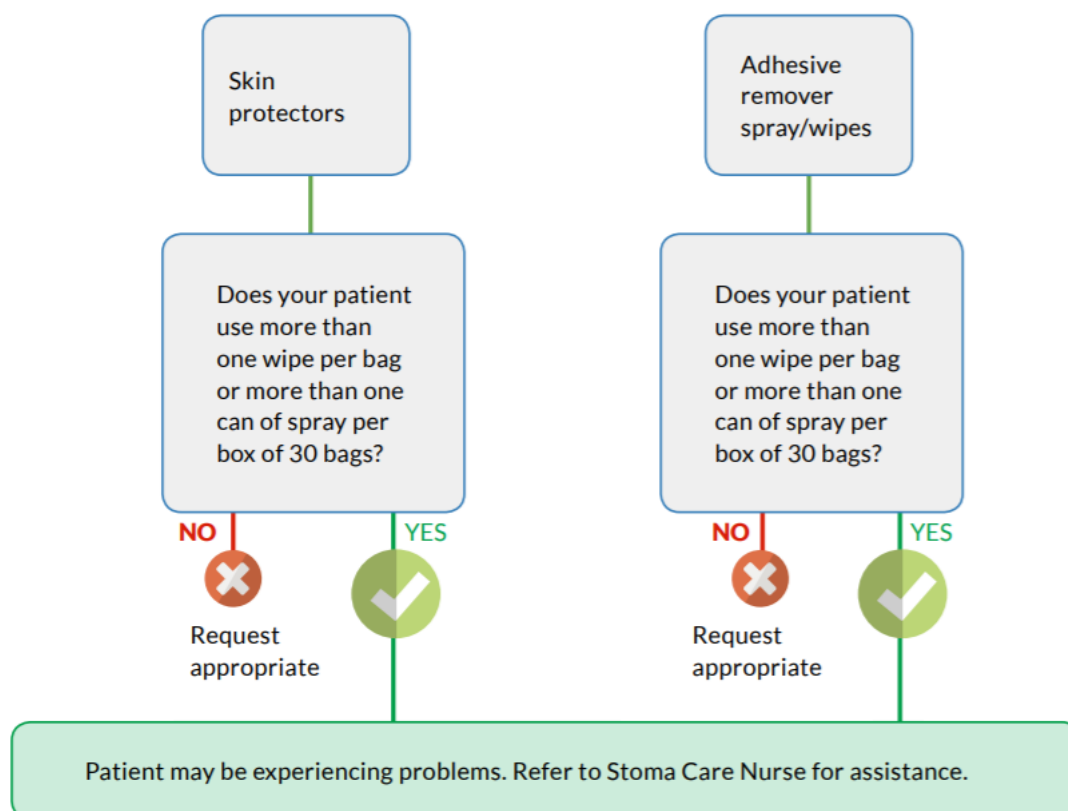
Source: Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group guidelines for the prescribing of Stoma Appliances – September 2016

### Overuse of stoma products flow chart



Source: PrescQIPP guidance on prescribing stoma appliances in General Practice.

### Overuse of stoma accessory products flow chart



Source: PrescQIPP guidance on prescribing stoma appliances in General Practice.

## Stoma Accessory Formulary

Manufacturer	Item	Cost (Drug Tariff price Sept 2025)	Code	Quantity/Comments
Adhesive remover spray				
Opus Healthcare	StoCare adhesive remover spray	5.30	5506	1-2 cans per month (ileostomy/urostomy) Up to 3 cans per month (colostomy)
Dansac Ltd	EasiSpray	7.20	083-01	
Respond Healthcare	OstoPeel	7.20	OPN50	
Salts Healthcare	Adhesive remover spray	7.21	WAP	
Coloplast Brava	Adhesive remover spray (75mls)	10.49	12012	
Rhodes	StoCare adhesive remover spray	4.95	STC 100	
Adhesive remover wipes				
Pelican healthcare	Wipes	15.30	13050E	1 box (30 wipes) per month (2 if colostomy)
Salts Healthcare	Wipes	9.41	WAP2	
Respond Healthcare	OstoMart	11.76	OPBW30	
Rhodes	StoCare	8.50	STC 200	
Skin protector spray				
Medicareplus International	Medi Derma-S Non-Sting	8.95	60819	For treatment of red, sore skin 1-2 per month. Refer to Stoma Nurse if use >3 months
CliniMed Ltd	Clinishield	8.44	3831	
Pelican Healthcare	Pelican Protect Plus Non-Sting Spray	10.36	130261	
Rhodes	StoCare protect	7.35	STC 150	
Skin protector wipes				
Salts Healthcare	Barrier Film Wipes	17.20	PPS1	1 wipe per day if skin red. Refer to Stoma Care Nurse if use >3 months
Medicare International	Medi Derma-S non-sting	19.40	60307	
Rhodes	StoCare protect barrier film wipes	13.16	STC 250	



Manufacturer	Item	Cost (Drug Tariff price Sept 2025)	Code	Quantity/Comments
Solidifying Agents				
ProsYs International	Independence Absorbent Strips	22.02	P200AS	1 or 2 strips after emptying if high output. Refer to GP/Stoma Care Nurse
Peak Medical	Gellymate Absorption Capsules		GD140	
Oakmed	Gel-X Capsules		Gel-X	
Stoma Paste				
ConvaTec	Stomahesive Paste	8.59	S105	Cavity wounds, absorb moisture, improve seal; refer to Stoma Care Nurse
Dansac	Dansac Soft Paste	4.11	77550-0	
Salts Healthcare	Stoma Paste	4.18	SP60	
Salts Healthcare	No-Sting Paste	7.76	NSP1	
Hollister	Adapt Paste	4.40	79300	
Stoma Powder				
Coloplast	Brava Ostomy Powder 25g	2.64	1907	Apply to broken skin. 1 every 1-3 months. Refer to Stoma Care Nurse
ConvaTec	Orahesive Powder 25g	2.71	S106	
Respond Healthcare	Renew Protective Powder with aloe vera 50g	5.31	ABP2	