

Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD)

Purpose	The benefits of eRD and how to recognise suitable eRD patients and how to find these patients using SystemOne clinical searches.
Scope	To be used to identify suitable eRD patients using SystemOne clinical searches.

Increasing eRD will have the following benefits:

- ✓ Reducing footfall to the GP practice and to the community pharmacy, supporting social distancing.
 - ✓ Reducing workload [*in the longer term*] for prescribers allowing better prioritisation of resources
 - ✓ Controlled management of the supply chain reducing the number of temporarily unavailable medicines.
- * eRD is only available to non-dispensing patients

Electronic Repeat Dispensing is essentially the release of a 'batch' of up to 12 months' worth of prescriptions to the pharmacy. This requires only one electronic signature from the GP/ Prescriber. [3 min you tube eRD video](#), [Electronic repeat dispensing \(eRD\) | NHSBSA](#) [GP Practice eRD resources, letter templates etc](#)

All relevant clinicians, pharmacists, repeat prescription staff and patients must have a thorough understanding of eRD. This is to avoid the process failing if a patient's medication changes during the cycle and to ensure it is set up correctly again following medication review / reauthorisation.

Patients must give their explicit permission (See Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD) – Patient Consent document** found on [Home - Knowledge NoW \(nwknowledgenow.nhs.uk\)](http://nwknowledgenow.nhs.uk) for information about their medications to be shared between their GP surgery and a nominated pharmacy. **This can be verbal or via surgeries preferred patient contact method.**

Document via read code:

"Patient consent given for Repeat Dispensing information transfer" XaKRX, 9Nd3, SNOMED 416224003

***National discussions are ongoing to simplify the consent process but at the time of writing the above is required.*

Patients who may be suitable for eRD

(See overleaf for clinical system searches to identify recommended patient groups to start with, also detailed in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2):

Patients who already have a Community Pharmacy ETP nomination and:

- **have** a stable condition(s). *Avoid patients with complex medication regimens.*
- have **not** had any unplanned hospital admissions in the last 6 months
- Have **not** had / nor likely to have any changes to their medicines in the previous/next 6 months
- Do **not** take any controlled drugs, benzodiazepines, hypnotics, medicines requiring frequent review e.g. lithium, methotrexate, unlicensed medicines.

Norfolk & Waveney ICB Medicines Optimisation Teams advise the following, if you wish to implement eRD.

1. Practices and associated Pharmacies *already familiar with and utilising eRD*

- Follow local advice regarding suitable patients and utilise the resources overleaf,
- ICB Medicines Optimisation Team may be able to support practices to implement eRD *where capacity allows*. To request support email: nwicb.repeatprescribing@nhs.net

2. Practices and associated Pharmacies *NOT yet using eRD*

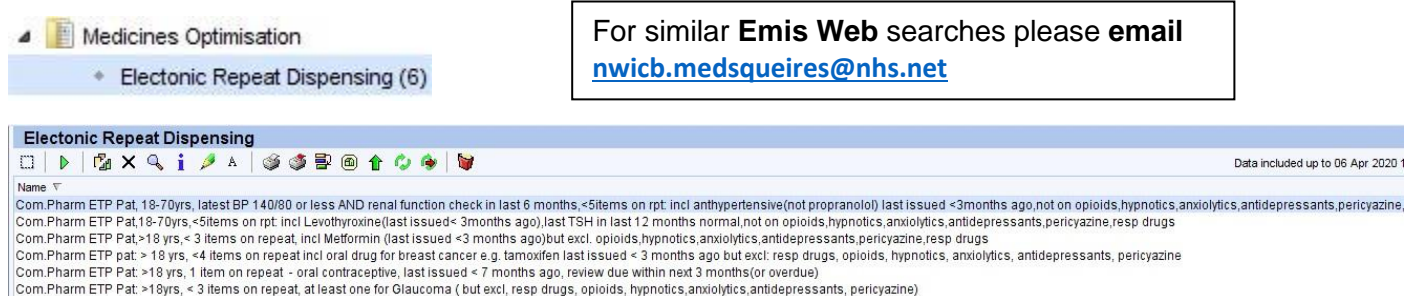
- Contact your Medicines Optimisation Team contact to request advice / support ONLY *if you feel you have the resources / capacity to spend some time setting eRD up*.
-

Suggested groups of patients to start with:

- **Stable patients > 18 years old with less than 4 - 5 items** on repeat
- **Excluding** opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressants, respiratory medication, drugs subject to current national shortage [click link for latest available information](#)
- **Exclude:** care home patients, patients **not** on stable regimens, patients who may not understand the eRD process /do not have support to help them, patients with complex needs.
- **Examples of potential patient groups:** levothyroxine only, eye drops for glaucoma only, oral contraceptives only, metformin alone for hyperglycaemia, oral breast cancer drugs only (*with clear treatment end date*), common antihypertensives.

System1 searches are available to identify the least complicated patients, who may be suitable. Please note: *more searches may be added. The searches may be amended following any feedback.*

System1 > Reporting > Clinical Reporting > Norfolk & Waveney > Medicines Optimisation > Electronic Repeat Dispensing



The screenshot shows the 'Medicines Optimisation' menu with 'Electronic Repeat Dispensing (6)' selected. A text box on the right states: 'For similar Emis Web searches please email nwicb.medsqueires@nhs.net'. Below the menu, the search criteria for 'Electronic Repeat Dispensing' are listed:

- Com.Pharm ETP Pat, 18-70yrs, latest BP 140/80 or less AND renal function check in last 6 months, <5items on rpt: incl anhypertensive(not propranolol) last issued <3months ago, not on opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressants, pericyazine,
- Com.Pharm ETP Pat, 18-70yrs, <5items on rpt: incl Levothyroxine(last issued< 3months ago), last TSH in last 12 months normal, not on opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressants, pericyazine, resp drugs
- Com.Pharm ETP Pat, >18 yrs, < 3 items on repeat, incl Metformin (last issued <3 months ago) but excl. opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressants, pericyazine, resp drugs
- Com.Pharm ETP pat: > 18 yrs, <4 items on repeat incl oral drug for breast cancer e.g. tamoxifen last issued < 3 months ago but excl: resp drugs, opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressants, pericyazine
- Com.Pharm ETP Pat: >18 yrs, 1 item on repeat - oral contraceptive, last issued < 7 months ago, review due within next 3 months(or overdue)
- Com.Pharm ETP Pat: >18yrs, < 3 items on repeat, at least one for Glaucoma (but excl, resp drugs, opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressants, pericyazine)

The patient record should **be checked by an appropriate clinician** before any change to eRD is made. *The search list will still include patients for whom eRD is not suitable*

Verbal consent from the patient must be obtained and an explanation of the process given. “Patient consent given for Repeat Dispensing information transfer” XaKRX, 9Nd3, SNOMED 416224003
“On Repeat Dispensing System” XaJus, 8BM1, SNOMED 414938004

NHS BSA – support for identifying patients -although lists *will still include patients who are **not** suitable*

- GP practices can obtain NHS numbers of patients who **may** be suitable
- Some practices will already have been sent this list from NHS BSA
- If you have not received a list but would like one email nhsbsa.epssupport@nhs.net

The list includes patients:	Excludes
With a single unchanged medicine for last 12 months With two unchanged medicines for last 12 months With three unchanged medicines for last 12 months Who had their prescriptions sent via EPS	Patients age 18 years or under Appliances Personally Admin. Drugs & Medicines (PADM) Dispensing Doctors Controlled Drugs FP10 MDA

Additional useful resources – *click links to access*

- **Academic Health Science Network:** [Wessex AHSN Electronic Repeat Dispensing Handbook 2018](#)
- **NHSBSA Resources:** <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliancecontractors/prescribing-and-dispensing/electronic/erd-resources>
- **NHS Digital prescriber system specific prescriber eRD eLearning:** <https://learning.necsu.nhs.uk/nhs-digitalelectronic-repeat-dispensing-elearning/>

Appendix 1: Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD) – Identifying suitable patients.

A number of local searches have been built on SystmOne to help identify patients who **may** be suitable for eRD. Similar searches are also available to import for EMIS Web.

These searches can be accessed via the following steps once logged into SystmOne: **Reporting > Clinical Reporting > Norfolk and Waveney > Medicines Optimisation > Electronic Repeat Dispensing**

Please refer to the 'Running searches in SystmOne / EMIS' document for further details.

It is important to remember that not all patients identified in these searches will be suitable for eRD so each patient must be reviewed by a pharmacist or technician before proceeding with eRD prescriptions.

In order to ascertain whether a patient is suitable for eRD the following criteria must be met:

- **Any routine monitoring, including blood tests, must have been checked within the past 12 months** (or sooner if specified in the search criteria). If results fall outside normal limits the tabbed journal should be consulted to check what advice was given at the time of the abnormal result, for example medication may have been initiated or the dose changed.
- **A medication review should have been completed within the past 12 months.** If the review falls outside of this timeframe, it may be appropriate to complete a simple medication review with the patient over the telephone. For example, a patient is only prescribed metformin and the latest HbA1c was within normal limits. If there is any doubt as to suitability do not proceed.
- **The patient must give explicit consent** for information about their medications to be shared between their GP surgery and a nominated pharmacy. **This can be verbal.** The process for eRD must be explained to the patient and the pharmacist or technician must be confident the patient understands this before proceeding with eRD prescribing. Please refer to the 'Patient Consent' document for further details.

If there is any doubt as to suitability of a patient to be initiated on eRD do not proceed with the process.

Once it has been established that eRD is suitable for the patient the SOP entitled 'Setting up an eRD' should be followed.

Useful resources – *click links to access*

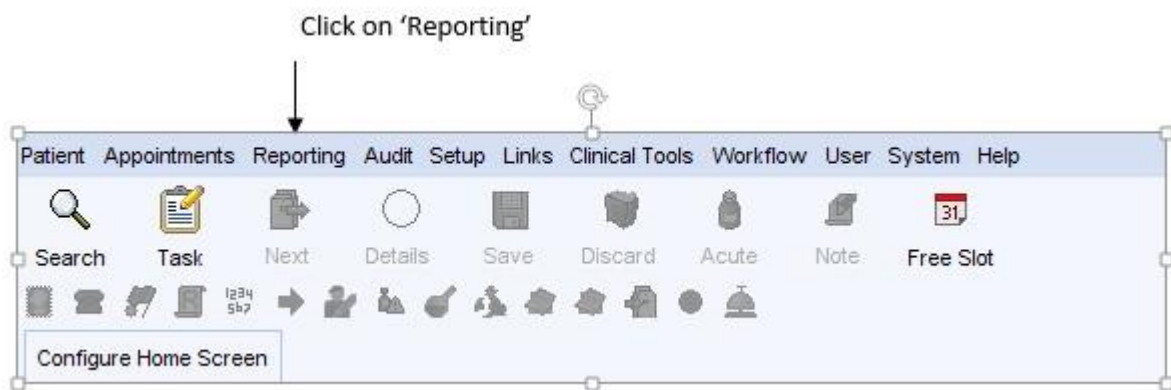
- **Academic Health Science Network:** [Wessex AHSN Electronic Repeat Dispensing Handbook 2018](#)
- **NHSBSA Resources:** <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/pharmacies-gp-practices-and-appliancecontractors/prescribing-and-dispensing/electronic/erd-resources>
- **NHS Digital prescriber system specific prescriber eRD eLearning:** <https://learning.necsu.nhs.uk/nhsdigital-electronic-repeat-dispensing-elearning/>

Appendix 2: Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD) – running searches in SystemOne

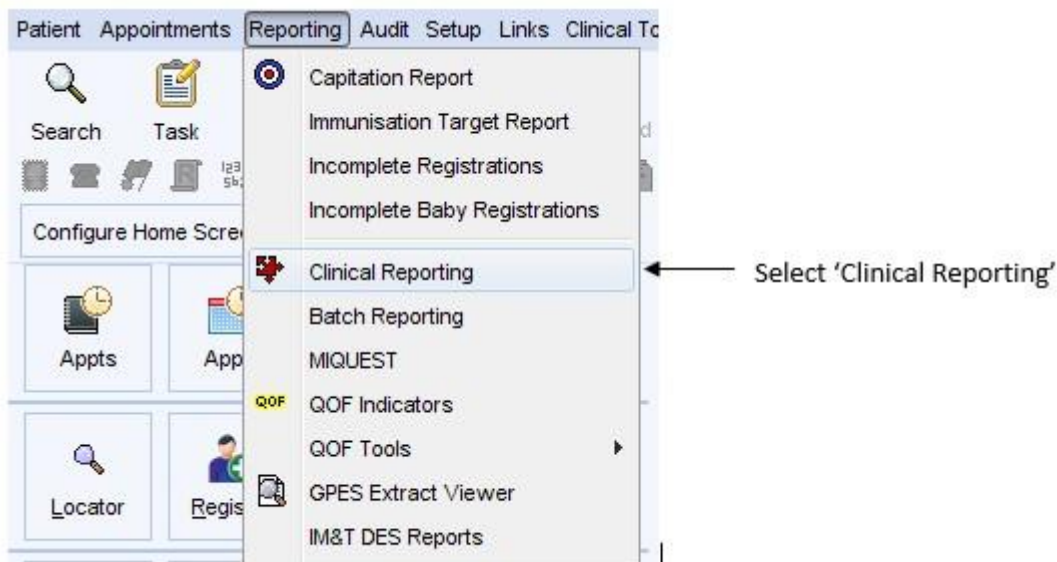
A number of predesigned searches have been uploaded onto SystemOne to help identify patients who **may** be suitable for eRD.

These searches can be accessed via the following steps:

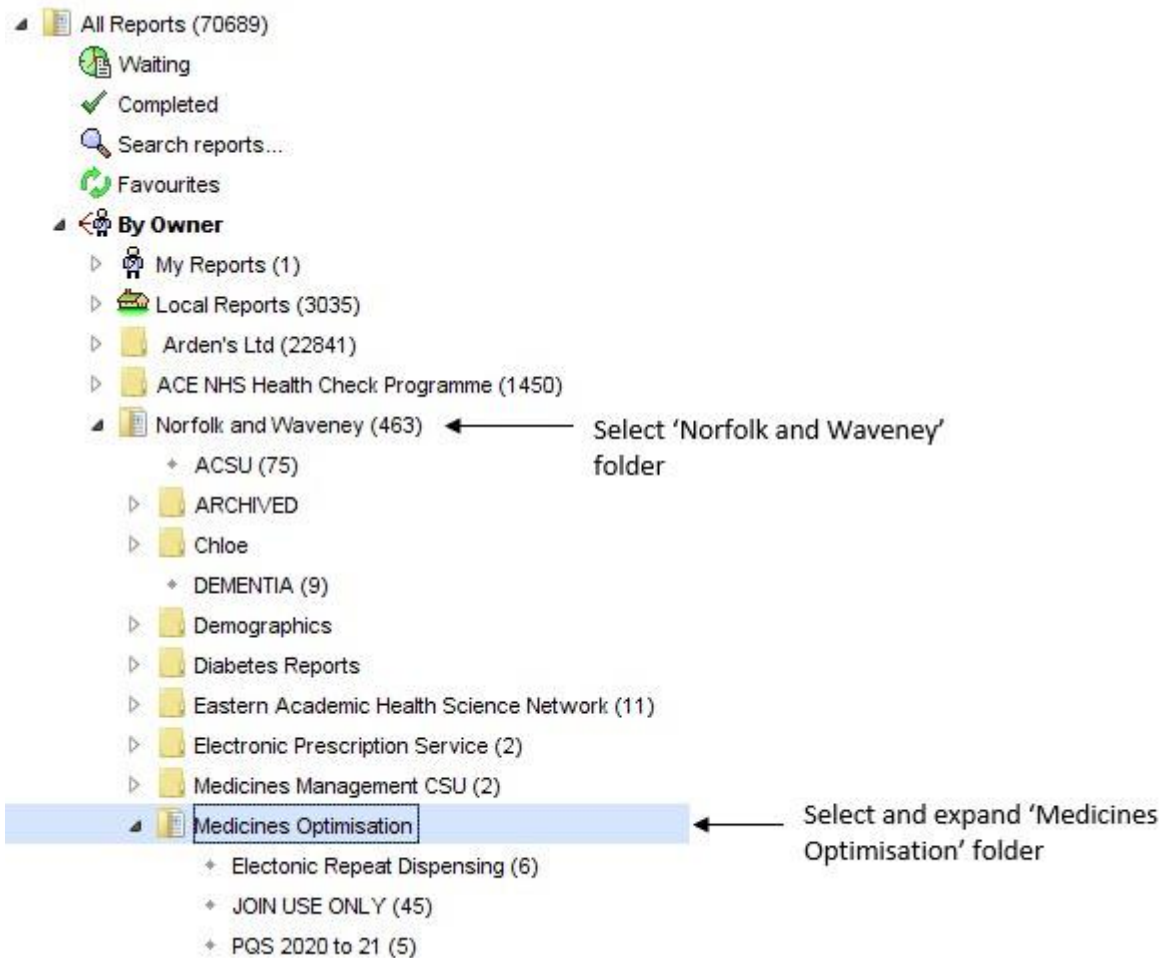
1. Select 'Reporting' along the top bar



2. From the drop down tree, select 'Clinical reporting'



- This will bring a drop down tree on the left hand side. Locate the 'Norfolk and Waveney' folder. Click to expand this then select the 'Medicines Optimisation' folder and expand.



- The locally developed searches can be found by selecting 'Electronic Repeat Dispensing'. The searches will appear on the main screen.

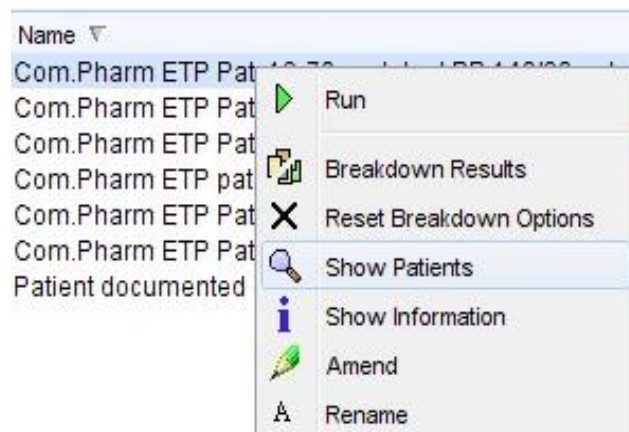
Electronic Repeat Dispensing			
Name	Count	%	Last Run
Com.Pharm ETP Pat. 18-70yrs. latest BP 140/90 or less AND renal function check in last 6 months. <5items on rpt incl anhyperensive(not propranolol) last issued <3months ago,not on opioi...			
Com.Pharm ETP Pat.18-70yrs <5items on rpt incl Levodopa(last issued< 3months ago),last TSH in last 12 months normal,not on opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics,antidepressants,pericyazine...			
Com.Pharm ETP Pat.>18 yrs, < 3 items on repeat, incl Mefformin (last issued <3 months ago)but excl. opioids hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressants, pericyazine, resp drugs	24	0.2 %	09 Apr 2020 12:23
Com.Pharm ETP pat. > 18 yrs, <4 items on repeat incl oral drug for breast cancer e.g. tamoxifen last issued < 3 months ago but excl. resp drugs, opioids, hypnotics, anxiolytics, antidepressant...	14	0.1 %	08 Apr 2020 17:57
Com.Pharm ETP Pat. >18 yrs, 1 item on repeat - oral contraceptive, last issued < 7 months ago, review due within next 3 months(or overdue)	0	0.0 %	08 Apr 2020 08:52
Com.Pharm ETP Pat. >18yrs, < 3 items on repeat, at least one for Glaucoma (but excl. resp drugs, opioids, hypnotics,anxiolytics,antidepressants, pericyazine)	24	0.2 %	08 Apr 2020 08:53

- To identify the patients including in the search terms, the searches need to be run. Highlight the searches you wish to run then select the green 'play button'.

6. Once the searches have been run a tick will appear in the flag column and the number of identified patients will be displayed.

Count	%	Last Run	Flags
50	0.4 %	09 Apr 2020 12:57	
50	0.4 %	09 Apr 2020 12:57	
24	0.2 %	09 Apr 2020 12:23	
14	0.1 %	09 Apr 2020 12:57	
0	0.0 %	09 Apr 2020 12:57	
24	0.2 %	09 Apr 2020 12:57	

7. To view the patients, right click on the search and select 'show patients'. This will bring up a list of all patients who match the search criteria.



Version	Date	Author	Status	Comment
2.0	Dec 2023	Updated by JC, TAG Lead Technician	Final	Format and accessibility checks in preparation for transfer to Knowledge NoW website. Content not reviewed. Review date amended to Dec 2024
2.1	Oct 2024	Updated by Medicines Optimisation Repeat Prescribing & Support Team		Wording amended. Links checked and updated. Review date updated. Sop's merged and added to appendix (). NWCCG icon removed from sop. Home - Knowledge NoW (nwknowledgenow.nhs.uk) link added. Repeat Prescribing email added. Scope and purpose box added.