FAQ's - New Dressings Ordering System

"I HAVE USED THIS IN NORFOLK AND IT'S SO MUCH BETTER – I'M HOPING IT COMES TO MY PRACTICE!"

Comment received by a local Practice Nurse

What does ONPOS stand for?

Online Non-Prescription Ordering Service

What's the timeframe for nursing homes?

Nursing homes will be set up following the sign of the aligned GP Practices.

When is this likely to go live?

ONPOS will be launched on 1st April 2024.

Has this been used in other locations?

Direct Supply is being used in many locations nationwide and is increasing as ICBs move away from traditional FP10 routes of supply. Our neighbouring ICBs have been working this way for many years, showing very positive results.

Will formulary be available on ONPOS website? So it is easier to reference at the time of ordering.

Yes, the formulary will be uploaded to ONPOS. The formulary products and the quantities will also be added in a list format on to the ordering system so you can select the dressings you require.

Can you live track your stock on ONPOS? I.e. issue 3 dressings and deduct from a stock tally, or is it manual check/count and order?

Using the audit function on ONPOS you can upload your stock levels and keep a closer eye on what you have in stock, if this is done every 6 months we can see if stock is stuck on shelves and move it around to a practice that is using dressings more regularly.

What support will the care homes get? Will residential homes need dressings?

- The district nursing teams will continue to oversee the wound care and supply dressings for patients within residential care homes.
- Nursing homes can sign up to use the ONPOS ordering system to obtain their dressings once the aligned GP practice has signed up. All care homes benefit from having a Tissue Viability Nurse providing ongoing support for wound management.

Can dressings be shared across practices within a PCN to mitigate waste?

They can be shared across those Practices within the PCN which have signed up.

Can part packs be ordered?

You are unable to order part packs unfortunately. ONPOS will have pack sizes only i.e. pack of 5 or 10 etc.

Is there a risk of waste?

There shouldn't be no. You will be only ordering what you need each week. Pack sizes are normally 5 or 10 dressings and you normally have a couple of years expiry dates on them.

How do patients get their stock for self-care if not via script to pharmacy? Do they collect a stock from the practice? There are some patients who usually receive delivery from pharmacy.

For patients who are under the care of the practice nurse for their wound and are self-caring between appointments the nurse would provide the patient with enough dressings from stock (onpos stock) to use until their next appointment.

In terms of log ins... when will we receive these?

The ONPOS team will be making visits to practices to set up the ordering system and your account details. This will then go live 1st April 2024.

Do nursing home have access?

Nursing homes can sign up to ONPOS following the sign up of the aligned practice.

Will this cover patients who use specialist dressings? We have a patient who uses Bullen for dressings recommended by a specialist clinic.

Where there are exceptions and a specialist need for a non-formulary dressing, you may be able to order these dressings through ONPOS with TVN/specialist input. If these dressings are not within the approved specialist list on ONPOS then those items may need to be sourced via the traditional FP10 route. The budget for these types of specialist items would sit within the practices remaining 20% wound care prescribing budget.

Can I confirm if non-formulary items are allowed via ONPOS?

The formulary products will be varied including a range of dressings to treat all stages of healing as well as complex wounds. There will be a Tissue Viability list where Tissue Viability specialists can approve advanced wound products for more complex wounds.

If non-formulary dressings are needed, these are usually very exceptional circumstances with specialist oversight, which would be sourced via the traditional FP10 route. This would sit within the 20% wound care budget remaining with the practice.

Can you please confirm the rules for ordering dressing packs.

The practice will continue to obtain dressing packs via their usual supply route for PPE. In the same way they would obtain other equipment required to perform the service i.e. gloves, aprons etc. Dressing packs for healthcare professional use would not be on a patient prescription or ordered via ONPOS.

If a specific, low use product is needed, are additional items able to be ordered in on different delivery days, or does the patient need to wait for the next delivery date?

The delivery is once weekly, so if a specific dressing type is required but not in stock, it would be appropriate to commence a dressing in stock with similar properties in preparation for the next delivery. This can be done by ordering a small amount of each category of dressing on formulary, as a stock item. This would not need to include every dressing listed,

it would allow the practitioner to apply an appropriate dressing to suit the healing stage of the wound, whilst waiting for the next delivery.

Will the dressings on ONPOS be limited?

Over the past year, we have worked alongside local specialists and wound care experts across SNEE settings and locations to enhance and align the existing formularies. This includes a range of dressings clinically approved and trailed. There will be various levels of dressing types guiding the practitioner according to the complexity of the wound as well as a TVN recommend list of dressings. Therefore, the practitioner should be able to order dressings to suit the healing stages of the wound.

Can the patients take these dressings home?

For patients who are under the care of the practice nurse for their wound and are self-caring between appointments the nurse would provide the patient with enough dressings from stock (onpos stock) to use until their next appointment.

Can the ICB access the reports?

Yes, there will be ongoing access to the data and regular meetings with ONPOS to review this.

Is sign up compulsory? Can practices stick with their current ordering method?

Sign up is not compulsory. Please note, Nursing homes will not be able to sign up unless the aligned practices sign up.

Just to clarify, will patients who are NOT exempt still need to pay for dressings if the practice uses ONPOS?

No, once the practice obtains dressings via ONPOS patients who are NOT exempt will no longer be required to pay prescription charges.

Would the dressings ordered from ONPOS require a prescription?

No, you will access these dressings as stock so your GP will not need to sign off any prescription for this. The ICB will pay for all dressings ordered via ONPOS.

How will the budget for dressings using ONPOS be worked out?

Each practice's prescribing budget for the wound care category will be top sliced 80% to cover the cost of all dressings ordered via ONPOS. 20% of the remaining wound care budget will cover exceptional circumstances and those patients who are not under the care of the practice nurse service i.e. those self-caring under a specialist clinic.

The budget is top sliced away from the practice so the ICB are then accountable for this and therefore carry the cost.

Can other types of appliances/items be included on the ONPOS system?

We will be working towards adapting the system over the year to include the ordering of compression hosiery i.e. class 1 and hosiery kits. This will allow nurses to apply the first compression hosiery kit/stocking when the patient is in the clinic!

Will having dressings as stock reduce space in the clinic room?

ONPOS is designed to order little and often on, there is no need to do large bulk orders, only order a small stock of what you need so that you have the right dressing first time for patients.

Will this system increase staff time due to stock checking, and will stock expire and be wasted?

Due to the changing nature of wounds, the ICB encourages only prescribing in 2 week quantities for a patient's dressings, to reduce waste and promote appropriate management of wounds. The ONPOS service enables a weekly delivery from NHS Supply Chain (NHSSC), at each practice and nursing home site. Therefore, you will be only ordering what you need each week. Pack sizes from NHSSC are normally 5 or 10 dressings and you normally have a couple of years expiry dates on them.

Contacts

SNEE ICB Appliance Nurse Team: sneeicb-ies.medsoptnurses@nhs.net

ONPOS Team:

- Jack Sanderson gbjsan@coloplast.com
- Elin Cammarano-Hughes gbelch@coloplast.com