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# <u>Shared Care Policy - Example Patient Agreement</u>

#### Dear xxx,

Your specialist care provider has contacted us requesting we take on shared care prescribing for (drug xxxx). This is a three-way agreement between them, us and you.

We have reviewed the documentation provided and we believe we can do this safely if we follow the information below. This means that we can take over the prescribing of medication *xxxx* for your convenience, on the understanding you remain under the care of your specialist (ie not discharged) and you have a review with them at least once a year.

Your specialist will have titrated your medication and stabilised you on a suitable dose. We are willing to take over prescribing of this medication as long as the following criteria are met.

## Patient and/or carer responsibilities:

- 1. You must continue to take your medication as prescribed and avoid abrupt withdrawal unless advised by your GP or specialist. If you stop your medication of your own accord, then you will need to be reviewed by the specialist to restart and stabilise your dosage again. We reserve the right to refuse to prescribe your medication if we are concerned medication has not been taken as prescribed.
- 2. You must attend regularly for monitoring and review appointments with primary care and the specialist clinic as requested.
- 3. Keep contact details up to date with both us and your specialist. Be aware that medicines may be stopped if you do not attend reviews as requested.
- 4. You should report the use of any over the counter medications to your GP and should discuss your prescribed medications with your pharmacist before purchasing any over-the-counter medicines.
- 5. If you think you could be pregnant you should take a pregnancy test and inform the specialist or GP immediately if you become pregnant or wish to become pregnant.

#### Responsibilities of the private clinic:

1. To conduct a review with you at least once a year, and to write to us with the results of this review.

- 2. To oversee any dose changes and take over prescribing temporarily until you are stabilised on the new dose.
- 3. To provide timely advice to the GP surgery if any queries arise around the medication or other relevant aspects of your care.

## Responsibilities of the GP surgery:

- 1. To conduct a review as stipulated in the shared care agreement.
- 2. To issue the named medication on a monthly basis.

If you are discharged from the specialist, the shared care agreement is no longer in place and the medication cannot be prescribed by the GP.

This is in accordance with GMC, NHS England and BMA guidance.

By signing this document, you are agreeing to the above policy that we as a practice have agreed upon.

Patient signature Patient name Date