

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request Reference FoI/23/610
Multi-Medicine Pill Pouches

1. Within your Health Board

- a) Where are you using multi medicine pill pouches? E.g., acute hospitals, mental health hospitals, nursing homes, residential care homes, patient's homes. Kindly provide a name and department of this place.**

Cardiff and Vale University Health Board's (the UHB's) wards and departments do not use multi-medicine pill pouches. They may be used in a patient's own home, but that will be determined by the pharmacy providing the medication and the patient; the UHB does not have access to that information.

Community pharmacies, nursing homes and residential homes are independent organisations and the UHB cannot answer on their behalf.

- b) Which type of organization is requesting them? E.g., Hospitals, nursing homes, community care providers.**

The UHB does not request them. Nursing homes, residential homes and community care providers are independent organisations. The UHB cannot answer on their behalf.

- c) Who provides these pouches? E.g., Hospitals, community pharmacies (Please state name & address).**

The UHB does not provide these pouches. The provider will be determined by the person or other organisation, as they are free to take their prescription to a community pharmacy of their choosing.

Names and addresses of community pharmacies in the UHB area is publicly available and can be found here: [Community Pharmacies](#).

2. Does your Health Board conduct continued care at home visits solely for the purpose of conducting medication adherence prompts?

The UHB commissions domiciliary care providers to support medication adherence where there are no other care needs but does not directly provide this care within its own services. Currently this includes the medication being provided in pre-prepared blister packs, although a Regional Medication policy has been agreed and is being implemented to support promoting from boxes and bottles rather than the requirement for blister packs.

If so,

- a) **What type of patient are you providing this service for? E.g., Fragility, mental health, Parkinson's disease, epilepsy.**

The UHB commissions domiciliary care providers to support medication adherence in individuals who, for cognitive or physical reasons, are unable to manage their medication independently and where there are no alternative ways to support the care. This includes individuals with dementia, and mental health and physical frailty needs.

- b) **How many patients require these medication prompt visits per month?**

In November 2023, the UHB was commissioning 56 domiciliary care packages to support medication adherence.

- c) **How long does it take for the staff member/ carer to conduct a patient medication prompt visit?**

In general, medication prompt visits would be commissioned for 15 minutes.

3. **In your Health Board, are you using medical devices or technology to improve medication adherence at home?**

These are not provided or used routinely by the UHB but may be advised as part of medication assessment and management.

If so,

- a) **What type of device/ technology are you using?**

Not applicable.

- b) **Is this device/ technology used in conjunction with patient medication prompt visits? Or has this reduced the number of medication prompt visits required?**

Not applicable.

- c) **Are you planning on increasing investment or the number medication adherence solutions available to your local population to improve medicines adherence at home? (Especially for the most vulnerable patients.) If so, how?**

The UHB continues to strive to improve medicine adherence at home, reviewing services and utilising technology available.