

Queries on computer generated CD prescriptions

Prescribers can issue computer-generated prescriptions for all CDs. Only the signature has to be in the prescriber's own handwriting. However, there is not presently a mandatory requirement to issue computer-generated CD prescriptions.

1. Can prescriptions for all CDs now be computer-generated?

Yes, the requirement that CD prescriptions should be written in the prescriber's own handwriting was removed on 14th November 2005.

2. I have a CD prescription which is computer-generated, including the date, can I dispense it?

Yes, only the signature has to be in the prescriber's own handwriting.

3. Can prescriber's use sticky labels on CD prescriptions for the patient's details?

In England and Wales, whilst not encouraged as good practice, the patient's details e.g. name and address, can be attached to the CD prescription via a 'sticky label' as long as the label is tamper evident. If a sticky label is used, prescriber's should also sign on the sticky label or at least start their signature on the sticky label.

In Scotland, as all prescriptions are scanned by NHSNCS, the use of sticky labels is not acceptable.