

# Prescribing Hot Topics



## Update: Temazepam Prescription Requirements

In addition to the normal prescription requirements for prescription only medicines, prescriptions for Schedule 2 and 3 Controlled Drugs also require certain additional, compulsory information i.e.:

- Dose
- Form
- Strength (where appropriate)
- Total quantity of the preparation in both words and figures

**Temazepam**, a Schedule 3 Controlled Drug, was **previously exempt from the CD prescription writing requirement of stating the quantity prescribed in both words and figures**. As of 1st June 2015, this exemption has been removed, which means that **prescriptions for Temazepam now need to comply fully with the requirements for Schedule 3 controlled drugs**.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Since 1st July 2015, regulations have been amended to allow the electronic prescribing of Schedule 2 and 3 controlled drugs via the Electronic Prescribing System (EPS). However, the current EPS message format does not support the inclusion of words and figures and requires a change to the EPS specification. Once this has been implemented, technical adjustments will be made to prescribing and dispensing software to enable the electronic transfer of Schedule 2 and 3 controlled drugs. Further updates will follow in due course.

***Since 1st June 2015, prescriptions for Temazepam must comply fully with the requirements for Schedule 3 controlled drugs and include the quantity prescribed in both words and figures.***

***Further updates will be provided when specification changes have been implemented to enable electronic prescribing of Schedule 2 and 3 Controlled Drugs***

For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Team on 01254 282087