

Non-Medical Prescribing (NMP): impact on end of life care Severn Hospice Community Nursing Team 2020 vs. 2023

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Data was collected over a 6-month period January to June 2023 – identifying coding reflective of non-medical prescribing. This flagged 181 separate patients.

We searched the 181 records for nurse prescribing activity; 121 patient notes showed actual prescribing activity.

Each prescribing activity was classed as part of a **planned** or **urgent/same day** visit.

Data was compared to a similar review completed over a 12 month period in 2020.

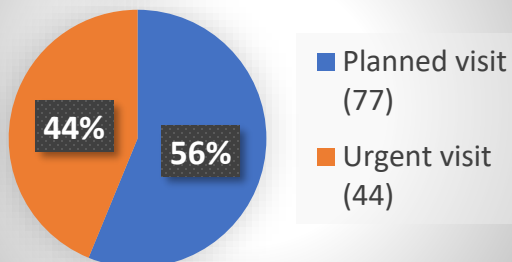


Nurse prescribing is being utilised on urgent/same day visits & planned visits. The service is aiming to be more responsive and is enhancing end of life care at home.

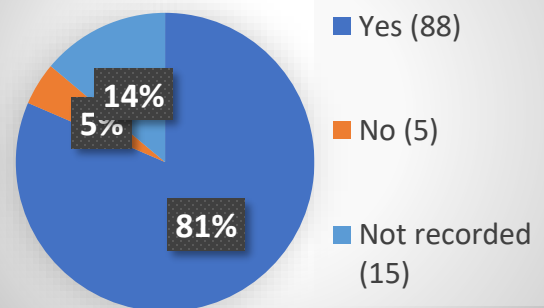
We identified 121 patients within a 6 month period showing evidence of non-medical prescribing. Of these, 77 patients had evidence of prescribing during a 'planned' visit and 44 in an urgent/same day capacity.

Reasons for prescribing ranged from antiemetics, oral opioid switch through to authorisations for subcutaneous medication, including syringe pumps.

Type of visit where NMP occurred



PPD achieved?



Comparing 2020 with 2023:

1. Rise in non-medical prescribing activity:

Number of NMP activities in 6m 2023 = 121
(Number of NMP activities in 12m 2020 = 43)

2. Preferred Place of Death outcomes improved:

81% achieved in 2023
(65% achieved in 2020)

3. Our number of non-medical prescribers within the team has increased

Number of NMPs 2020 = 3.6 WTE
Number of NMPs 2023 = 4.6 WTE

Limitations:

- +Inconsistent coding
- +Inconsistent administration around prescribing activity

Outcomes for our community team:

- review of coding; streamline essential codes
- consistent handling of prescribing activity
- ongoing annual review of prescribing to ensure excellence

The population of the UK is expected to increase by 17.5% by 2035 therefore the demand for Palliative & End of Life Care may be expected to rise. As we see increasing demands for community-based care in all healthcare areas, coupled with reduced numbers of doctors, it is highly likely we will need to expand non-medical prescribing throughout Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin.