

Reuse of Medicines in Care Homes and Hospices

November 2020

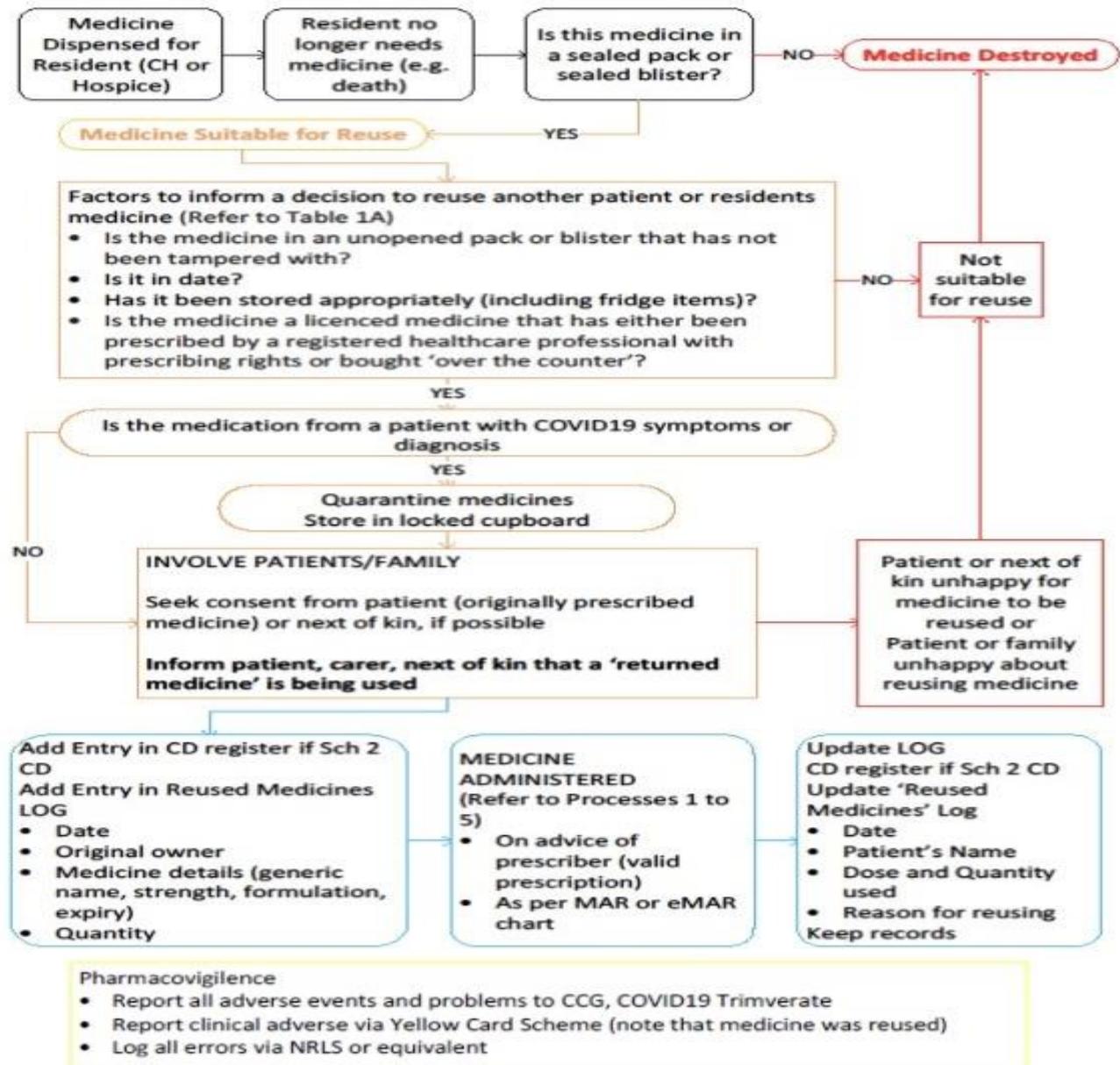


To support timely access to essential prescribed medicines during the Covid-19 pandemic, a guide to medicines reuse for care homes and hospices has been published by DHSC. This should only be used as a last resort where no other stocks of the medicine are available and/or a suitable alternative can't be sourced in an appropriate timeframe (as informed by the supplying pharmacy) and there is an immediate patient need. **The full guidance is available [here](#)**

Reuse of medicines may be an option if the following criteria are met:-

- Consent must be documented from both the medicine donor and recipient to use a re-purposed medicine. (Ideally on admission)
- The medicine must be from an unopened/unadulterated sealed pack or blister strip.
- The medicine must be in date and have been stored in line with the manufacturer's directions.
- The re-use of medicines must be under the supervision of a registered healthcare professional.

The flow chart below outlines the process to be followed. Standard operating procedures are available [here](#)



For further information, please contact the Medicines Management Teams on 01282 644801 (EL CCG) or 01254 282087 (BwD CCG)