NURSE PRESCRIBING IN CARDIAC REHABILITATION

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My declaration of interest

I have nothing to declare
Nurse/Midwife prescribing in Ireland.

Legislative changes in 2007 allowed for prescriptive authority to be extended to Registered Nurses and Midwives.
Conditions for Prescriptive Authority

- Nurse/Midwife employed by a Health Service Provider
- Medicinal product must be one used in the usual course of service
- Prescription issued in the usual course of the healthcare setting
- An Bord Altranais registration number stated on each prescription.
PRESCRIBING SITE

DIRECTOR OF NURSING

CANDIDATE NURSE PRESCRIBER

MEDICAL MENTOR

DRUGS AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE

PRESCRIBING SITE CO ORDINATOR
EDUCATION PROGRAMME

- National Framework of Qualifications level 8

Three modules:
- Clinical Pharmacology
- Professional and Legal aspects of prescribing
- Clinical Practice

- Attendance at college, on line content and 96 hours with medical mentor.
Collaborative Practice Agreement (CPA)

- A written agreement between the RNP, medical mentor and employer.
- Contains the details of patient group and health care setting in which the RNP can prescribe.
- Details medicinal products the RNP can prescribe.
- Forwarded to An Bord Altranais annually.
Nurse prescribing in Cardiac Rehabilitation

- Successful completion of course in RCSI.
- Drawing up of CPA.
- Patient group and conditions identified.
- Medications identified.
- Communication pathway with other healthcare professionals.
Continuing Professional development
Prescribing by means of Verbal/phone Email/fax
Clinical Decision Making
Communication & History taking
Separation of responsibilities
Influence of outside interests
Off label/unauthorised medications
Repeat Prescribing
Prescribing for self, family, friends
Prescription Writing
Documentation

PRACTICE STANDARDS
Role of Nurse prescribing in Cardiac Rehabilitation

“Cardiac rehabilitation is the process by which patients with cardiac disease, in partnership with a multidisciplinary team of health professionals, are encouraged and supported to achieve and maintain optimal physical and psychosocial health’”

(SIGN, 2002).
CPA Cardiac Rehabilitation SCH.

- Description of practice setting including patient population.
- Listing of specific cardiac medications RNP authorised to prescribe.
- CPA signed by
  - Registered Nurse Prescriber
  - Collaborating Medical Practitioner
  - Representative of health service employer.
Clinical decision making process

- Prescribing undertaken following patient assessment.

- RNP has formulated a treatment plan.

- Initiates treatment in discussion with and agreement by the patient.

- RNP has kept record of event.
Therapeutic relationship with patient.

- Patient assessment – tests, history and physical exam.

- Medication reconciliation – currently prescribed, over the counter medicines, herbal and supplements.

- Risk factor assessment.
Opportunity to assess adherence

- Current level of adherence
- Unintentional non-adherence
- Intentional non-adherence

Adherence to medical advice

- Failure to attend appointments (16%-84%).

- Failure to follow dietary recommendations (13%-76%).

- Not taking medications (31%-54%).

(Evangelista et al 2000)
Information targeted to individual patients.

- Risk factors
- Social circumstances
- Rationale for prescription discussed.
Continuity in patient care.

- Treatment decided in timely manner.
- Written information to patient.
- Advised on further follow up.
- Communication with GP and Cardiologist.
Documentation

- All episodes of prescribing recorded.

- Prescription writing – legible, Name and pin number, full name and address of patient.

- Prescription details entered in National Data Base for RNPs.
Patient benefits

- Direct consultation with prescriber.
- Targeted information – medications and risk factor management.
- Active participant in own care.
- Cost effective.
Impact on Nursing Role

- Nurse led service.
- Allows for completion of patient care plan.
- Enhanced knowledge of pharmacology.
- Contributes to holistic care of patients.
- Continuing professional development.
‘Patients have improved access to medication and are sticking to their medication regimes better since the introduction of nurse prescribing in Ireland.’

Irish Times 13th September 2011