**Template letter for provision of medication following discharge**

Dear Provider,

Re: <<Patient Identifier Label>>

The above patient was discharged from your [inpatient/day case care/outpatient clinic] on [insert date]. However, you failed to supply the patient with medication for a minimum of seven days (unless a shorter period is clinically necessary).

This breaches the [new hospital standard contract](https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/2-nhs-contrct-tech-guid-1617.pdf) which came into force on 1 April 2016, which sets new requirements to reduce inappropriate bureaucratic workload shift onto GP practices, and was also reiterated in a recent [letter from NHS England to all NHS Trusts](https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/letter-contract-requirements.pdf).

**Contract reference SC11 introduces a new requirement on providers to supply patients with medication following discharge from inpatient or day case care. Medication must now be supplied for the period established in local practice or protocols, but must be for a minimum of seven days (unless a shorter period is clinically appropriate or where a repeat prescription is already in place).**

Failure to supply patients with medication following discharge from inpatient or daycase care for a minimum of seven days, waste millions of GP appointments annually and incur unnecessary additional bureaucracy on hard pressed GP surgeries.

**We would be grateful if you could supply the patient with the appropriate medication for a minimum of seven days (unless a shorter period is clinically appropriate or a repeat prescription is already in place).**

While we appreciate that these contractual requirements are fairly new and may take some time to embed, we ask that you please act swiftly to implement these contractual obligations into your systems.

We have notified [insert] CCG, as the commissioner, of this breach in view of their responsibility to ensure delivery of the standard hospital contract.

Yours faithfully,