Repackaging Medicines PPHC Remote Information

Primary and Public Health Care Central Australia and Barkly Regions and Population and Primary Health Care Big Rivers, East Arnhem and Top End Regions (hereafter referred to collectively as PPHC) remote staff authorised to supply medicines under Northern Territory (NT) *Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2012* may be required to repackage medicines prior to supply to improve the safety or effectiveness of the medicine. When assessing whether repackaging is appropriate, consideration needs to be given to the stability of the medicine and potential safety concerns for clients. When supplying repackaged medicines to clients the following requirements must be adhered to:

Packaging

Repackaged medicines must only be supplied in endorsed packaging as listed on the PPHC Remote Standard Drug List (SDL). *Some medicines are unsuitable for removal from part or all of the original manufacturers packaging. This is usually indicated on the original manufacturers packaging. If this is unclear contact your pharmacy provider for clarification.*

Liquid Medicines

Oral liquid doses must be supplied in plastic amber bottles with a child proof lid. Three sizes are available on the SDL with child resistant caps:

- 100 mL amber plastic bottle which is preferred
- 30mL and 148mL white plastic bottle

Solid Medicines

Oral solid doses (tablets or capsules) must be supplied in:

- White plastic bottles (30mL, 148mL) with a child proof lid, or
- Strips or part strips packaged within cardboard tablet boxes. Part strips must be cut in a manner to preserve the medicine name and expiry date on the part of the strip that will remain in health centre stock. Any part strip remaining in health centre stock that does not display this information should be discarded.

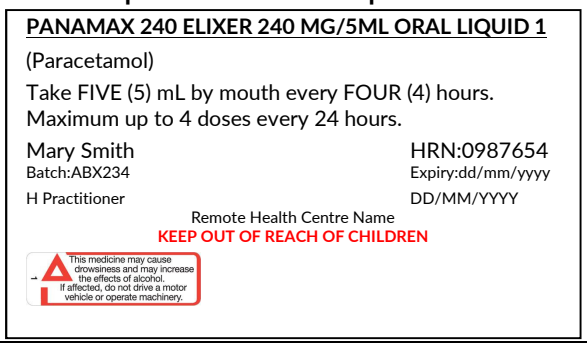
Labelling

Medicine labels should be printed using a Label Printer wherever possible. All scheduled medicines must include the following information on a label when supplied to a client:

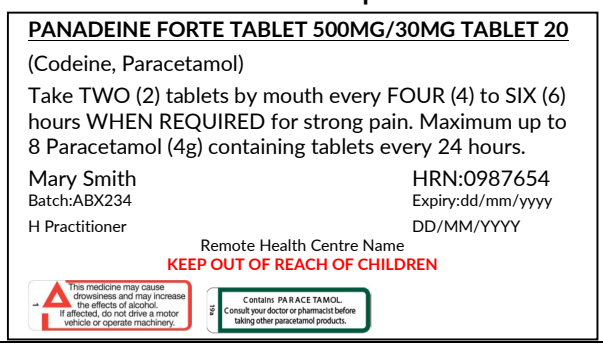
- client's name
- name of medicine (generic and brand), strength, form and the quantity supplied
- prescribed dose, frequency and route of administration
- date given to the client
- initials / electronic identifier of staff member supplying the medicine
- location and contact details of health centre
- expiry date +/- batch number
- ancillary warning labels if applicable eg sedation warning.
- specific storage requirements if applicable
- keep out of reach of children

Some medicines have a reduced shelf life once opened or removed from their original packaging. The reduced duration is usually indicated on the original manufacturers packaging. This should be recorded as the expiry date on the repackaged medicine. Remember to also indicate the date opened / new expiry date on the original packaging if required. If this is unclear contact your pharmacy provider for clarification. For more information see Issuing and Administering Medicines.

Liquid Medicines Example Label



Solid Medicines Example Label



Documentation

Each supply must be documented in the client Electonic Health Record. Additionally each supply of Schedule 8 (S8) and Restricted Schedule 4 (RS4) Medicine MUST be recorded on the appropriate page in the S8 & RS4 Drug Register.

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