

**NHS GRAMPIAN**

**GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA**

**FOR THE APPROPRIATE USE OF**

**PROCEDURE BEDPADS (DISPOSABLE)**

**Continence Advisory Service  
NHS Grampian**

**June 2012  
Date of review June 2014**

## **GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF PROCEDURE BEDPADS – (DISPOSABLE)**

If a patient has bladder/bowel problems, a continence assessment should be undertaken to determine the cause, using the NHS Grampian Assessment Form and Guidelines on completion of form.

Procedure Bedpads should not be issued where a patient is wearing a bodyworn pad. If there is any leakage when using the bodyworn pad the fitting should be checked first or the patient may require a different bodyworn pad. Patients using an indwelling catheter may require short-term use of bedpads while bypassing problems are being addressed and advice sought from the Continence Advisor. They **should not** be put onto repeat prescription.

Bedpads should not be used as chair protection as there is a risk of the patient slipping from the chair. If washable bed/chair protection is required please contact the Continence Advisory Service.

They are not designed as an incontinence product and do not protect skin from the effect of urine.

Disposable bedpads are appropriate in the following situations:-

- ***Bed protection during bowel treatments such as insertion of suppositories or enemas***
- ***Bed protection during maternity care***
- ***Bed protection where there is excessive wound exudate***

## **GENERAL PRACTICE**

- Acute prescriptions should only be issued in accordance with the criteria listed above.
- Review all patients with procedure bedpads on repeat prescription. This list can be produced by running a search on the practice computer. The task can be broken down into the three following steps:-
  1. **Patients supplied with body-worn pads and procedure bedpads**  
This group can be found by comparing the practice search with the list of patients receiving bodyworn pads (List available from Continence Service, Inverurie Hospital).
  2. **Patients using other incontinence products (catheter/sheath and bags) and procedure bedpads**  
Checking the computer record for prescriptions issued can identify this group.

Over/

### 3. **Patients only using procedure bedpads**

A process of elimination should identify this group.

- Procedure bedpads are only available for repeat prescribing
  1. Where there is an ongoing need to protect the bed from excessive wound exudate.
  2. For patients who have regular bowel care.

## **NURSING/RESIDENTIAL HOMES(CARE HOMES)**

- Follow the action points above for General Practice.
- Where the pads are inappropriate, advise the practice to delete them from the list of repeat prescriptions, and ensure all nursing/care staff are aware the pads are no longer required.
- If procedure bedpads require to be prescribed ensure the quantity is appropriate, and that "Tena 60x60" are prescribed.

## **COMMUNITY HOSPITALS**

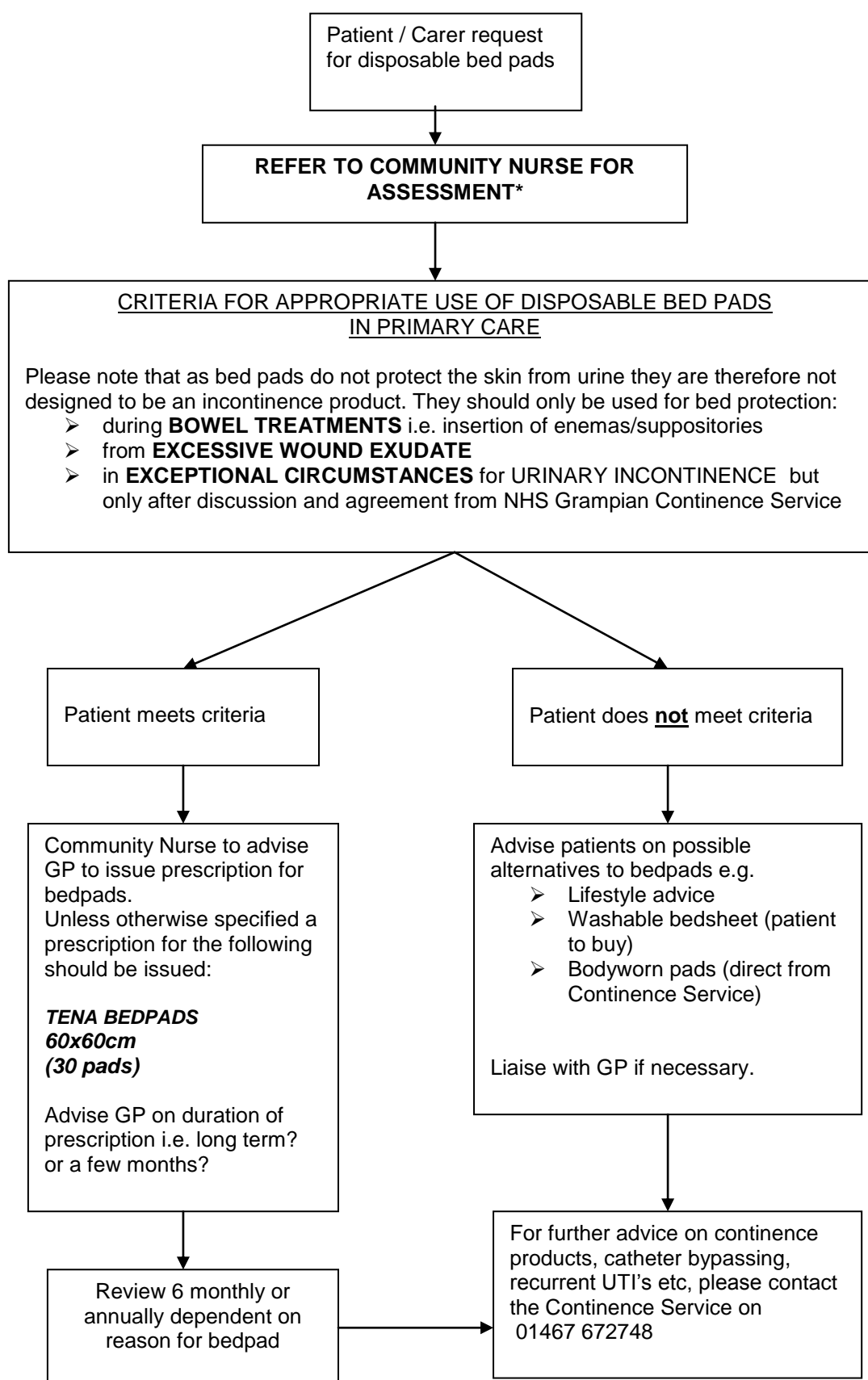
- The guidance on the use of procedure bedpads should be followed. If they are used this should be documented, with reason(s), in the care of management plan.
- **If they require to be used ONLY PRODUCT CODE 065127 to be ordered**

**Implementation of these guidelines will greatly reduce the prescribing of bedpads.**

## **REFERENCES**

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3. Quality Improvement Scotland Best Practice Statement March 2009 – Prevention and Management of Pressure Ulcers
4. Fader M, Bain D, Cothenden A – Effects of Absorbent Incontinence Pads on Pressure Management Mattresses – Journal of Advanced Nursing (2004) 48 (6): 569 – 74
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6. Hampton S – Protecting the Skin from Urine, Nurse2Nurse, Vol02, Issue07, May 2002, P63-64
7. Hampton S – Importance of the Appropriate Selection and Use of Continence Pads – British Journal of Nursing, Vol 14, No5, 2005
8. Randell Lesley – When Should we Use Bed Pads, Charter Continence Care, Issue 15, Page 10-11
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**GUIDELINES FOR THE APPROPRIATE PRESCRIBING OF  
DISPOSABLE BED PADS IN PRIMARY CARE**



\*Assessment according to NHS Grampian Continence Guidelines available at:  
<http://intranet.grampian.scot.nhs.uk>