



Position statement on prescription of sedatives for outpatient procedures

November 2024

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to inform you of our updated position regarding the prescribing of sedation for hospital requested outpatient investigations or procedures. In line with other GP practices and in line with local medical committee guidance, we will no longer be providing sedation prescriptions, such as diazepam, for outpatient investigations such as an MRI scan or procedures located on hospital premises. This is a position supported by the Royal College of Radiologists. It will be the responsibility of the requesting clinician to provide sedation for whatever investigation or procedure they deem necessary.

Please do not refer patients to their GP for a prescription as we will not be able to issue this for them and they will be directed back to the requesting clinician. It has resulted in difficult conversations with patients, when hospitals have sent patients to us, and we have had to redirect them back.

Many thanks for your understanding of this position and providing the necessary support for patients under your care.

Yours sincerely

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New Forest PCN is made up of the following surgeries representing over 33 thousand patients:

- Wistaria and Milford Surgeries
- Chawton House Surgery
- New Forest Medical Group
- Lyndhurst Surgery