**Draft Practice Policy for Prescribing Medications Initiated in the Private Sector**

The Practice reserves the right to reject any request from a private Specialist to prescribe medications on an ongoing basis. If the Specialist wishes for a medication to be added to the patient’s repeat prescriptions, the same approach as per standard NHS guidance should be followed. Ie:

1. Specialist writes to the GP outlining the reason for the medication being initiated and requests it be placed on repeat prescription AND
2. Specialist issues a private prescription for one month (this allows a reasonable amount of time for a clinic letter to reach the GP Practice and be processed)

Patients who are issued a medication by a private Specialist will need to pay the private prescription fee for that item. Requests to transfer private prescriptions on to an NHS prescription before a clinic letter has been received will always be rejected.

Requests to take on the prescribing of the below classes of medications WILL NOT be accepted by the GP Practice:

SC - Shared Care

SI – Specialist Initiated

SO – Specialist Only

BL - Black Listed Medicines

NR – Not Recommended

DM – Discontinue Medicines

Practices may consider adding medications on the Coventry and Warwickshire Approved Prescribing Committee Formulary if they are not in the above classes. The Formulary can be found here: <https://www.covwarkformulary.nhs.uk/>

If a patient feels a medication in the above classes requires a prescription on a repeat basis, the following options are available:

1. The private Specialist continues to prescribe the medication for their patient
2. The private Specialist arranges for care to be transferred to an NHS specialist and an NHS shared care agreement can be completed (please note this does not guarantee the GP practice will take on the responsibility of prescribing shared care medications, purely that it will be considered).

Please note all GP Practices in the Leamington Spa Primary Care Network have adopted the same approach to prescribing medications initiated in the private sector.