

Spectrum CGL Core MAT

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1| Three Days/Titration Miss

In terms of managing acute risks with service users being off prescription the safest action for pharmacists to take would be to contact CGL Services at the earliest opportunity so that as it mentions in the SLA (4.19 & 4.30), the prescriber can review and decide what the next steps would be. For some; this may be restarting or continuing the prescription. Evidence shows that being on a MAT prescription is better than using illicit drugs and our aims are always to ensure where possible, a MAT prescription is available even if it is a low dose prescription in a timely manner.

Within the scope of the Home Office wording, it mentions to **contact the prescriber if three or more doses have been missed**. From our understanding this would entail direct contact, telephone as opposed to notifying by PharmOutcomes as the safest option.

With regards to a titration missed dose our prescription wording was changed across our organisation from the learning of a death in Hertfordshire and **directions issued by the coroner for the prescriber to be contacted**. Again, from our understanding this should be considered as urgent, and it would be best to make direct contact.

Community pharmacy: delivering substance misuse services - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) mentions how the urgency of the matter may influence the method of communication.

We will of course continue to call pharmacies prior to sending a new service user and/or whenever any prescription changes are made.