Removal of old items (e.g. not issued in last 6 months) from repeat list

Summary

- Repeat dispensing plays a major and important part in the issuing of prescriptions in primary care.
- About two thirds of all prescriptions issued in primary care are repeat prescription and these accounts for approximately 80% of NHS medicine costs for primary care.
- It is imperative that repeat prescriptions are clinically accurate and appropriate to avoid risk to the patient.
- The time spent processing and managing repeat prescriptions can be significant.

Aim/Purpose/Background

- To ensure that the repeat template only lists medication that is current and appropriate for repeat prescribing.
- To remove or stop agreed medication that has not been issued within the agreed time period.
- To maintain a repeat template that only lists medication that is current and appropriate for repeat prescribing.
- This is a cost avoidance and safety project.

Guidance for Action

- Discuss project with relevant person in surgery and agree:
  - time period for medication not issued
  - medication that can be stopped or removed
  - medication that should be excluded from the project
  - appropriate correspondence with patients
- Medication that may be excluded from project are GTN Sprays/Tablets, Adrenaline Auto-Injectors, Glucose Products for Hypoglycaemia, Ketone Test Strips and low risk seasonal medication, for example, oral antihistamines. If necessary, prompt check of expiry dates for these medications.
- Where a medication is clinically still indicated but not issued recently or consistently (indicating poor compliance), refer to GP for medication review.
- Refer to appendix A for screen shots of how to run report on SystmOne.

This can be used in conjunction with the house keeping project ‘When necessary’ medication that could be removed from the repeat list.