

## Prescribing of Colostomy, Ileostomy and Urostomy Stoma Bags

### Position Statement

**Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB recommends maximum monthly quantities, dependent on the stoma type and appliance system, for the prescribing of colostomy, ileostomy and urostomy stoma bags.**

#### Recommendations

Appliance Type	Maximum Monthly Quantity to be Prescribed	Prescription Directions
Colostomy bags – one piece systems *	90 bags	Remove and discard after use Bags are not drainable Usual use: 1-3 bags per day
Colostomy bags – two piece systems *	90 bags + 15 Flanges	Bag – remove and discard after use Bags are not drainable Usual use: 1-3 bags per day Flange – change every 2-3 days
Ileostomy bags – one piece systems *	30 bags	Drain as required throughout the day Use a new bag every 1-3 days
Ileostomy bags – two piece systems *	30 bags + 15 flanges	Bag – change every 1-3 days Flange – change every 2-3 days
Urostomy bags – one piece systems	30 bags	Drain as required throughout the day Generally replace bag every 1-3 days May need to change daily
Urostomy bags – two piece systems	20 bags + 15 flanges	Bag – change every 2 days Flange – change every 2-3 days
Night drainage bags for urostomy patients	4 bags (1 box of 10 bags every 2-3 months)	Use a new bag every 7 days

*\*An ileostomy bag may be used for a colostomy and (rarely) vice versa – please refer to Stoma Nurse as quantities may differ.*

- New patients should only be prescribed colostomy, ileostomy or urostomy stoma bags after an assessment by a stoma care nurse.
- If ordering in excess of recommended quantities, patients should be referred to their local stoma care nurse for review.



## Rationale

- Colostomy bags are not drainable or reusable. Usual use: 1-3 bags per day. Flushable bags are only to be used on advice of stoma nurse.
- The flange (base plate for two-piece systems) is not usually changed at every bag change.
- Ileostomy and urostomy bags are drainable.
- Night drainage bags for urostomy patients are drainable. Manufacturers recommend washing the bag daily and replacing after 7 days.
- Using more than the recommended amount could indicate a stoma related issue that requires a clinical review.

## Background

- One-piece appliances are stoma bags, that have an integral adhesive flange as one unit. The adhesive flange is the part of the bag system that is placed around the stoma and attached to the skin. When the bag is removed, the new bag must be reattached to the skin.
- Two-piece appliances have two parts - a separate flange (base plate) which attaches to the skin and a separate bag, which the patient can clip onto the flange. Flanges are changed every 2-3 days. The two-piece system can be helpful for patients with sensitive skin. The bag is changed on average about 2 or 3 times a day.
- There is no clinical evidence to support a preferred formulary choice.
- The stoma care nurse is therefore best placed to advise on the appropriate product for the patient, taking into account the stoma type.

## Stoma Care Nurse Team Contact Details:

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SWH: Hertsmere Locality	Telephone: 07901 118827 (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm)	Email: <a href="mailto:nclibc.stomanurse@nhs.net">nclibc.stomanurse@nhs.net</a>
ENH: Stoma office for hospital and community care service, Lister hospital, Stevenage	Telephone: 01438 284133 (Monday-Friday, 7am-4.30pm)	Email: <a href="mailto:stomacare.enh-tr@nhs.net">stomacare.enh-tr@nhs.net</a>
West Essex: Stoma care nursing team	Telephone: 01279 827072 (Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm)	Email: <a href="mailto:paht.stomacare@nhs.net">paht.stomacare@nhs.net</a>

### References:

1. PrescQIPP Prescribing Guidelines for Stoma Appliances and Accessories
2. Stoma Toolkit Adults, February 2018; NHS Birmingham

<b>Version</b>	4.0
<b>Developed by</b>	Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation Team, Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board Stoma Care Clinical Nurse Specialists, West Hertfordshire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, East and North Hertfordshire NHS Trust and The Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust.
<b>Date ratified</b>	V1 July 2020 (Medicines Optimisation Clinical Leads Group). V2 July 2021 (Medicines Optimisation Clinical Leads Group). V3 May 2023 (Medicines Optimisation & Prescribing Delivery and Implementation Group). V4 Updated SWH Hertsmere contact information.
<b>Review date</b>	The recommendation is based upon the evidence available at the time of publication. This recommendation will be reviewed upon request in the light of new evidence becoming available.





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West Essex Integrated  
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