*[Patient name] [Practice name]*

*[Patient address1] [Practice Address 1]*

*[Patient address 2] [Practice Address 2]*

*[Patient address 3] [Practice Address 3]*

*[Postcode] [Postcode]*

*[Date]*

Dear [PATIENT],

**Changes to your elastic belt prescription**

In line with current national and local guidelines, we have carried out a review for all patients who are prescribed accessories for their stoma.

Elastic belts attach to stoma appliances and can add security and help prevent leakage from a stoma appliance. Elastic belts will stretch out over time and with repeated use. Machine washing in a pillow case, hand-washing, using mild soap and cold water, as well as drip drying will help to keep your elastic belt in good condition.

The latest guidance has changed the number of elastic belts you can order on prescription. This means that you can now order up to a maximum of six elastic belts on prescription each year.

This prescription change has been agreed with local stoma care specialist nurses and is in line with current local guidance. We have made this change to your repeat prescription ready for your next order.

**If you are experiencing leakage, odour or sore skin around your stoma, or ordering more than six elastic belts on prescription each year, please contact your stoma nurse.**

Their contact details are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Dacorum, Watford and St Albans & Harpenden Localities | Telephone: 01923 217489 (Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm) | Email: [westherts.stomacare@nhs.net](mailto:westherts.stomacare@nhs.net) |
| Hertsmere Locality | Telephone: 07901 118827  (Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm) | Email:  [nclicb.stomanurse@nhs.net](mailto:nclicb.stomanurse@nhs.net) |
| Stoma office for hospital and community care service, Lister hospital, Stevenage | Telephone: 01438 284133  (Monday-Friday, 7am-4.30pm) | Email:  [stomacare.enh-tr@nhs.net](mailto:stomacare.enh-tr@nhs.net) |
| West Essex Stoma Care Nursing Team | Telephone: 01279 827072 (Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm) | Email: [paht.stomacare@nhs.net](mailto:paht.stomacare@nhs.net) |

**The ideal aim is to have such a good bag fit that stoma accessories are rarely needed.  Please note that if you are prescribed more than one stoma accessory product, you may receive more than one letter for each of your different products.**

Yours sincerely,