



National Prescribing Service Limited



Case study 41: Safe use of generic medicines (for GPs, pharmacists and other health professionals)

Health professionals are invited to read the scenario below, answer the questions (see over) and send your responses to NPS for collation. We will send you a commentary on the case study, along with the aggregated responses, which will provide a snapshot of how your colleagues responded.

To receive feedback on this case study

Please sign the consent agreement in the 'Your Details' box (see over).

Scenario (use the most appropriate for your situation)

Anne is a 78-year-old woman who:

presents to her GP for repeat prescriptions **OR** presents to her regular pharmacy for dispensing of her prescription.

Anne has a history of atrial fibrillation, hypertension, gastro-oesophageal reflux disease and type 2 diabetes for which she is stable on her current medication regimen. She is a widow and lives with her daughter. Anne is outgoing, ambulant and self-caring with no obvious impaired cognitive function.

Anne's medications are metformin 500 mg twice daily, glibenclamide 5 mg daily, digoxin 125 micrograms daily, atenolol 50 mg daily, enalapril 5 mg daily, omeprazole 20 mg daily and warfarin usually 5 mg daily.

Anne states that the last few times she had scripts filled she was asked if she would like the cheaper alternative, when available, and was reassured that the actual medicine remains the same. Anne was happy about the reduced cost of some of the medicines but remains concerned about different brands being effective and safe.

For GPs and pharmacists

If you wish to be included in the **Quality Prescribing Initiative (QPI)** of the **Practice Incentives Program (PIP)**, or receive **PSA CPD & PI (or State equivalent) credit points*** you will need to:

- sign the consent agreement in the 'Your Details' box (see over)
- quote your **provider and prescriber numbers** or **PSA member number** in the spaces provided in the 'Your Details' box
- complete all questions.

* This program is recognised under the PSA CPD & PI Program for 1 credit point (or State equivalent) according to PSA Guidelines. Recognition number: R1-8/05.

Sending in the form

Final date to be received at NPS:

Friday 24 March 2006

Send the completed case study to:

NPS
PO Box 1147
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012
Or fax to: (02) 9211 7579

