

Barrier to
strengths-based
approach



*"We can't maximise people's independence when... **Pharmacies won't accept new patients for blister packs?**"*

You said

In some neighbourhoods, some pharmacies are declining new patients for blister packs. This means reablement/ care providers can no longer support people with taking their medication. Instead people are relying on support from informal carers or managing themselves.

Together we're doing...

Pharmacies are independent businesses therefore we have a different relationship to them than other partners. Where pharmacies don't have capacity to make up blister packs, **we can advise people they can source another pharmacy** (independent chemists are more likely to provide this service). To note, **practitioners cannot direct people to a specific alternative pharmacy (legally)** - it would need to be their choice/ sourced by informal carers etc.

Pharmacies don't get paid any extra for completing the blister packs (as opposed to handing out medication in existing boxes). However, pharmacy's **do receive payment from YOURmeds** for their referrals, which MCC is not involved with and does not contribute to - therefore **practitioners should not presume if pharmacies won't complete the regular blister packs, they also won't complete YOURmeds** (where an assessor has been able to demonstrate the YMS device and is satisfied the person is suitable then a referral should be made).

All information relating to Technology Enabled Care support including medication support and the process of accessing YOURmeds support is hosted on the MLCO website:

<https://oneteam.healthiermanchester.org/Resources/Technology-Enabled-Care>

This information has been fed back to our Principle Social Worker and Deputy Meds Optimisation Lead and we will share any further updates.

Barrier to
strengths-based
approach



*"We can't maximise people's independence when...**there's a gap in offer for people who have autism?**"*

You said

I am looking for Autism specialist support and have found it increasingly difficult to source. ”

“ I am asking for Commissioning to organise specialist service to support INT to work with people who have autism.

Together we're doing...

Colleagues in South Manchester were asked to identify people who they felt would benefit from specialist autism provision. They were then asked complete a pen picture of the person (a short description that includes where the person is living, their goals and why they are asking for some support).

Eight people were initially identified, and on analysis of the pen portraits, a strong theme was highlighted. Within this group, they were often younger people who weren't achieving their goals, were at risk of carer breakdown and practitioners were struggling to gain their trust.

Following discussions with colleagues, **a decision was made to seek immediate support for these eight people.** This is with a view to test different approaches and learn more about what works well with this cohort, acknowledging that everyone will be different.

For timeliness, we are running a mini competition with trusted providers, and will be looking to mobilise this new service in the next few weeks (on a trial basis).

Commissioners will work closely with practitioners, providers, and the people we support to monitor and evaluate the delivery of this small-scale service, before deciding how and whether to scale it up. Along with other recent work in this area, this will feed into the newly established Autism Board.

For more information, please contact liz.goodger@manchester.gov.uk or orlaith.kelly@manchester.gov.uk