



**Fw: [Montu] Re: Query regarding prescription duration and possession**

4 December 2025 at 15:45

**Guy Coxall** [Redacted]  
To: Saleem Aziz [Redacted]

FYI

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 5:48 PM  
**From:** "QA admin (Support)" <[hello@montu.uk](mailto:hello@montu.uk)>  
**To:** "Guy Coxall" [Redacted]  
**Subject:** [Montu] Re: Query regarding prescription duration and possession

Good afternoon Guy,

My apologies for the delay in responding to your email. The two points you have noted in regard to lawful possession and expiration of prescription are correct. We are not able to offer legal advice on this. There is no legal time limit for patients to use medication. The use of medication by patients post expiry date is a safety and efficacy issue rather than a legal one.

Kind Regards

Kay Hoare  
Governance and Compliance Manager

Governance Team

Governance Team

This email is a service from Montu UK. Delivered by Zendesk

On 26 November 2025 at 17:35:38 UTC, QA admin [hello@montu.uk](mailto:hello@montu.uk) wrote:

Good afternoon Guy,

My apologies for the delay in responding to your email. The two points you have noted in regard to lawful possession and expiration of prescription are correct. We are not able to offer legal advice on this. There is no legal time limit for patients to use medication. The use of medication by patients post expiry date is a safety and efficacy issue rather than a legal one.

Kind Regards

Kay Hoare  
Governance and Compliance Manager

## Governance Team

This email is a service from Montu UK. Delivered by Zendesk

On 4 November 2025 at 10:32:33 UTC, QA admin [hello@montu.uk](mailto:hello@montu.uk) wrote:

Dear Guy,

Thank you for your enquiry, I will pass it on to the Consultants to get an answer for you and update you.

Kind Regards

Kay Hoare

Governance and Compliance Manager

Governance Team

This email is a service from Montu UK. Delivered by Zendesk

On 28 October 2025 at 13:47:00 UTC, Guy Coxall [REDACTED] wrote:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to obtain clarification that a patient legally prescribed a CBPM via a GMC Specialist Consultant can lawfully possess and use their medication (prescribed as a PRN - use as necessary) beyond the 28/30 day prescription duration (to which I believe relates to the duration a pharmacy can dispense the medication).

- **Lawful possession:** A person who has been legally prescribed a controlled drug is authorized to possess it. The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971, which governs controlled drugs in the UK, prohibits unauthorized possession. A valid prescription serves as that authorization.
- **Expiration of prescription:** The 28-day rule for Schedule 2, 3, and 4 controlled drugs (and 6 months for Schedule 5) dictates the maximum period within which a pharmacist can dispense the medication from the date the prescription was written. It does not impose a time limit on a patient's lawful possession of the medication once it has been dispensed.

The difficulty I am having is finding absolute evidence that the above statements are correct as the medical websites and the MDR 2001 refer to medical practice opposed to the legalities for patients.

I am currently supporting a patient with a legal case in which the prosecution and the magistrate believed that as a Schedule 2 CD, possession and use was no longer legal post the 28/30 day supply, however as I'm sure you are aware, patients with several pots of different cultivars will use their medication in line with their medical needs.

I would also like to ask the question, is possession and use legal after the expiry date as it is becoming more common that pharmacies are supplying patients with CBPM's with short expiry dates, sometimes

28/01/2026, 20:36

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as short as a week.

I look forward to your reply.

Kind regards,

Guy Coxall.  
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