

## SPSO decision report

**Case:** 201700163, Greater Glasgow and Clyde NHS Board

**Sector:** health

**Subject:** clinical treatment / diagnosis

**Decision:** not upheld, no recommendations

### Summary

Mr C was unhappy that the doctor in the prison health centre decided that his prescription for pregabalin medication (medication used to treat pain from damaged nerves) would be reduced. He was also unhappy that, shortly after this, the decision was made to stop the medication entirely as a result of a failed spot check. The following month the medication was restarted, but on a supervised, reduced dosage. Mr C was concerned about this as he said that this medication was very important in helping him manage pain. He complained to us that the board unreasonably reduced his dose of pregabalin.

We took independent advice from a GP. The adviser explained that the decision to prescribe this medication is a clinical one based on the patient's need and the medical assessment. It is not prescribed based on a patient's request and, in this case, the adviser considered that there had been no clinical failings. The adviser also noted that the decisions had been in line with the relevant policy and were also in line Mr C's medication contract, which said that medication would be stopped if a spot check was failed. We did not uphold this complaint.