## Using Appointment Searches to Send SMS Reminders on a Friday for a Monday

This quick reference guide explains how to set-up an appointment search to send SMS appointment reminders on a Friday for an appointment the following Monday. The benefit is that the patient can, if required, cancel their appointment over the weekend, rather than receiving a text message reminder on a Sunday evening.

Note - The days are always abbreviated, so Monday must be entered as Mon.
To set up the appointment search:

1. From the Windows Notification Area, right click Vision+ $\square$ and selec $\dagger$ Practice Reports:

2. Select Appointments then choose All:

|  | Practice Reports |  |  | 3- $\quad \mathrm{x}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QOF | Appointments |  |  |  |
| Practice Lists | All | Select All to display appointments for the |  |  |
| Last Run | Itodays reminder | 7 days | example 1 |  |
|  | Following day | Friday for monday reminder | GP next day |  |
| Extracts | NEXT DAY APPOINTMENT | next day appt | next day branch 2 |  |
| Warfarin | next day main site | next day reminder for branch surgery | Next Day warning |  |
|  | NHS D Demo filter | NWIS Demo Apt Search | test cm |  |
| Appointments | Today | Visit Appointments |  |  |
| Patient Groups |  |  |  |  |

3. The Appointments screen displays appointments in the next 7 days. Select the Days in the future filter and select $\mathbf{3}$ (for three days in the future):


Note - If the option to choose 3 is not available select a different option, as this can be changed later when we customise the search.
4. Select Customise

Customize.

5. The Filter Builder screen displays and should display Days in the future equals 3. If not, type 3:

6. Select press the button to add a new condition.

Training Tip - To remove filters select the three dots $\square$ and select Remove.
7. The second filter automatically displays as SMS, select it and change it to Day:

8. Now, change the like to equals and type Mon in the empty box:

| Filter builder - [untitled.flt] |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Filter | AND <root> |  |
| $\ldots$ | Days in the future equals 3 |  |
| $\ldots$ | Day equals Morl |  |
| press the button to add a new condition |  |  |

9. Select OK, the filter conditions display at the bottom of the screen:

 from the toolbar and type a meaningful name.

Important - Additional criteria can be added to the search such as slot type, for example, normal, doctor or session type. It is important to remember that SMS text message reminders should only be sent to valid appointments. Also, remember if searching over a bank holiday weekend, 4 days can be used.

## Creating Appointment Searches for the Rest of the Week

To cover other days in the week, create a second filter for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday appointment reminders. However, the two filters must not overlap. Otherwise, patients receive more than one appointment reminder. For example, the search below runs every day including Sunday. Therefore, the search needs to exclude appointments on a Monday.

To create a second search:

1. From the Appointments screen select the search you have just created:

2. Select Customise

Customize...

3. Change the filters as below:

- Days in the future equals 1
- Day does not equal Mon


4. Select OK and Save to provide a search name.

Training Tip - To remove filters select the three dots $\square$ and select Remove.

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