



Pharmacy Department

Getting your Medicines Right

It is important that the people looking after you in hospital know what medicines you usually take so they can be prescribed and administered correctly.

You or your carer can help the hospital staff to get your medicines right during your hospital admission and help to reduce discharge delays by following these steps:

Before you come into hospital

Please make sure you have a plentiful supply of your usual pain relief medicines ready for your return home e.g. Paracetamol.

Please make sure you have a sufficient supply of all your regular medicines supplied by your GP **or** have a repeat prescription available.

Please bring the following with you into hospital:

- A **copy of your most recent GP repeat prescription** or list of medicines
- A supply of **all your current regular** medicines including:

Tablets/Capsules	Patches
Liquid medicines	Suppositories/Pessaries
Eye/Ear/Nose drops	Injections e.g. Insulin
Inhalers/Nebules	Herbal/Homeopathic remedies
Sprays	Vitamins/Supplements
Skin creams/Ointments	Any other medication you buy regularly

- Any **recent clinic letters about medication** prescribed by a hospital doctor that you are taking, as this may not be prescribed by your GP and may not appear on your repeat list.

If you are coming into hospital for surgery, some of your medicines may need to be stopped. This will be explained to you by your surgeon or by the hospital pre-assessment team. **You *still* need to bring these medicines with you into hospital please.**

On admission

Please hand over all your medicines to the nursing staff. It is important that you do not take any of your own medicines until these are prescribed. If you know a medication dose is due, please tell the nursing staff or doctor.

During admission

Your own medicines will be kept safely in your bedside locker. If you have controlled drug medication then this will have to be secured in the ward controlled drug cabinet.

If your hospital stay is greater than 24 hours then the hospital pharmacy team aim to check your medication history with you or your carer.

If you would like to take your own medication during your admission, please ask the ward staff about “**self-administration**”.

At any stage of your stay, if you have any questions about your medication or would like further information, please ask to speak to a pharmacist.

If you would like support with your medicines after leaving the hospital, or have been prescribed a new medicine for a long-term condition, the hospital pharmacy team can refer you to your local Community Pharmacy. Please discuss this with the hospital pharmacy team.

When you leave

The hospital doctor needs to prescribe your medication to take home. The prescription is then checked by a pharmacist and medicines ordered from the pharmacy department, if necessary. We will ensure you have adequate supplies of medicines to take home **or** you may have told us that you already have sufficient supplies of your medicines at home.

Please ask for your medicines to be explained to you, especially any changes. You can ask the pharmacy team or the nurse discharging you from the hospital.

You will be given an up-to-date list of your prescribed medicines which you can take to your GP and your Community Pharmacy. A copy will be sent to your Community Pharmacy, together with information about any changes. This is to ensure that your medicines are right following discharge from the hospital.

Contact Numbers:

If you have any further questions about your discharge medicines after you have left the hospital please:

Telephone the hospital pharmacy: 01305 255294, Monday to Friday: 9.00am to 5.00pm

Or speak to your Community Pharmacist

About this leaflet:

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If you have feedback regarding the accuracy of the information contained in this leaflet, or if you would like a list of references used to develop this leaflet, please email pals@dchft.nhs.uk



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