

Frequently Asked Questions

Should I bring my own medication into hospital with me?

Where possible, it is recommended that you bring your medication (including inhalers, eye drops, patches, herbal medicines) with you when you attend hospital. This will help the doctors, nurses and pharmacists ensure that an accurate history is taken and we can provide the correct treatment and review your current medication. We will use this medication during your stay but will ensure you have at least two weeks of supplies on discharge. On discharge, if your medication is unchanged, please let the pharmacist know if you have supplies at home.

Where will my medicines be stored when I am in hospital?

Each patient has their own locked medicines cupboard by their bedside. The nurse keeps the key for this and will administer medication at the prescribed time. In certain circumstances (e.g. rehabilitation wards) patients will be encouraged to take part in a self-medication scheme to prepare them for home.

Who can I speak to about my medication?

Each ward has a pharmacist and a medicines management technician. They will be available to answer any questions you may have on your medication and explain any changes to them on discharge from hospital. They can also provide you with a "medication reminder card" to help as a prompt when to take your medicines. Please ask your pharmacist if you have any problems taking medication at home as there are various ways we can help e.g. non click lock lids or large print labels.

Medicines Helpline

We have a medicines helpline which is available from 2-4pm. We can answer questions relating to medication provided on discharge from our hospitals such as:

- How and when to take them
- Taking other medicines with them
- Problems your medicine may cause

We cannot answer questions about your illness, other peoples' medicines or medicines from your own doctor.

