

Contact us

This information has been written by the specialist mental health pharmacists who work for the Trust.

If you would like to contact us, ask your ward or team to put you in touch with the pharmacist in your area.

If you want to know more about a specific medicine or you would like to discuss what you have read here, ask a member of your mental health team.

www.awp.nhs.uk

PALS

To make a comment, raise a concern or make a complaint, please contact the Trust's Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS).

Tel: 01249 468261
Freephone: 0800 073 1778
Email: awp.pals@nhs.net

Other formats and languages

If you need this information in other formats (such as large print, audio, Braille) or in another language, please call the PALS number.

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Bringing your own medicines into hospital

This leaflet explains why we encourage you to bring your medicines into hospital with you.



Which medicines to bring?

Please bring in all medicines that you have bought and are taking, not just medicines prescribed by your GP.

Why should I bring my medicines into hospital?

Bringing your medicines into hospital with you can have many advantages:

- You will be taking medicines you are familiar with and that you recognise.
- It helps us make sure we prescribe all the medicines you are taking whilst you are in hospital.
- If your medicine is on the ward when you need it, there is less chance of you missing doses of medication that are critical to your wellbeing.
- If your medicine is changed while you are with us, we can safely dispose of any unused or unneeded medicines with your permission

What happens when I bring my medicines into hospital?

Staff will check they are of a suitable quality to be used in the hospital and they will be stored safely.

Your medicines will be labelled and have your name on the container.

What if the medicine is no longer needed or cannot be used?

There may be several reasons why a medicine cannot be used, such as staff not being able to clearly identify it.

If the medicine is no longer needed or cannot be used, then staff will ask your permission to dispose of it safely.

The medicine that you bring into hospital with you will only be used for you. We are not allowed to give your medicine to anyone else.

What happens next?

Staff will ask you if they can give you your own medicine during your stay with us.

If you say no, staff will order more medication for you from their pharmacy supplier.

When leaving our care, your medicine will be returned to you if you are still prescribed it and it is safe to return it.

We will always ask your permission before we dispose of your medication.