



CHANGES TO YOUR REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS

From **Monday 1st July 2019** GP Surgeries
will **no longer accept** prescription
requests made by your Pharmacy



WHAT IS CHANGING?

From **Monday 1st July 2019** GP Surgeries in Sittingbourne and Sheppey can no longer accept repeat prescription request made by Community Pharmacies.

This means all patients will need to request their repeat medication order directly from their GP Surgery.

If you already order your repeat prescriptions directly from your GP Surgery this change will not affect you.



Pharmacies will still continue to collect prescriptions from GP surgeries and deliver medicines to your home.



WHY IS THIS CHANGING?

Medicines waste is a widely recognised problem within the NHS.

National and local research has told us that this small change will not only increase patient safety but also save money by reducing medicine waste. This saving can then be used on other healthcare services for Swale residents.

This new system will give you more control and understanding of your medicines.



PATIENT EXEMPTIONS

In exceptional circumstances a mutual agreement can be made between a patient's GP Surgery and Community Pharmacy to support an individual where they (or a representative) are unable to effectively manage the re-ordering of their medication.

Please speak to your GP or Pharmacy if you feel you (or a patient you are caring for) fall into this category.

Before re-ordering your medicines:

See, what medicines you already have

Think, before you re-order any medicines

Order, only what you need

Protect, yourself and others by disposing of medicines safely



WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Your GP Surgery will start phasing in this new system from 1st July 2019. This means that they will not accept prescription requests from any pharmacies after this date.

You will need to remember to order your repeat prescriptions from your GP Surgery when you have 7 to 10 days of medicines left.

Your surgery will need at least 2–3 working days to issue a prescription, and then the pharmacy needs 2 days to obtain your medicines, **so don't leave it until the last minute.**



HOW CAN I ORDER PRESCRIPTIONS FROM MY GP SURGERY?



Online via your computer using Patient Access or via email.



Via your mobile or tablet by downloading the MyGP or NHS App.



Using the white 'tear off' slip attached to your prescription or via letter directly to your GP Surgery.

ASK YOUR PHARMACY OR SURGERY ABOUT 'BATCH' PRESCRIPTIONS (ALSO KNOWN AS – ELECTRONIC REPEAT DISPENSING)

If you are eligible your GP may be able to authorise 'batch' prescriptions for your regular medication.

This will mean you **DO NOT** need to request any further supplies of your medications for a period of up to 12 months.

Instead you can collect your medication direct from your Pharmacy on a monthly basis without the need to contact your GP.



ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions please contact NHS Swale CCG via:

Phone: 03000 425 100

Email: swale.ccg@nhs.net

Post: NHS Swale CCG, Bramblefield Clinic, Grovehurst Road, Kemsley, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 2ST