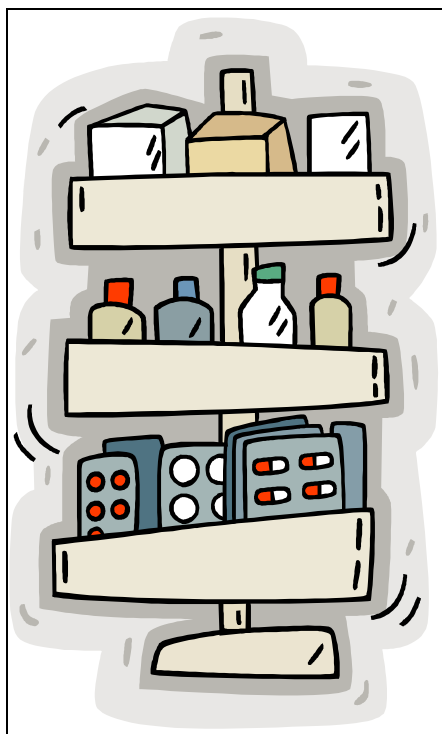


REPEAT PRESCRIBING



Did you know that...

- ✚ 70% of all prescribed medicines are issued on repeat prescriptions.
- ✚ It is estimated that nationally £96 million pounds worth of prescriptions are returned by patients every day!
- ✚ In the Suffolk coastal area, a survey of medicines sent for disposal was carried out in March 2001. These were medicines that were NEVER used. The estimated cost of this waste was £136,838. This was money that could have been used to improve your local health service. It could have paid for additional hip replacement operations, cataract operations or more practice nurses.
- ✚ Once medicine has been dispensed it cannot be re-used, even if it is returned to the dispensary or pharmacy unopened.



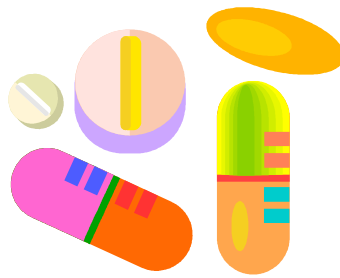
WHY DO SURGERIES KEEP CHECKS ON REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS?

Your doctor will want to keep a check on the strength and type of medicine you are taking because:

- ❖ If your condition changes you may need more or less of your medicines or a complete change.
- ❖ If your condition resolves you may not need the medicines anymore.
- ❖ It is in your interest to have your medicines checked at regular intervals.

REPEAT PRESCRIBING

WHEN YOU NEED TO RE-ORDER REPEAT MEDICINE



When you need to re-order repeat medication, complete the tear off slip that was provided with your previous prescription. Bring or post it to the surgery, we have internal and external posting boxes for this purpose. Due to the risk of errors, we cannot accept requests over the telephone.

Please remember to allow 48 hours (two working days)(excluding bank holidays and weekends) for the staff to produce your new prescription and have it authorised by the doctor.

For those patients living more than one mile from a chemist or pharmacy, the surgery can dispense medication directly. However, you can either collect it and take it to a chemist yourself, alternatively there are collection services available from Tesco and our local pharmacy.

Request for Urgent Repeat Prescriptions

When requesting “urgent” repeat medication, please ensure sufficient time for processing.

We suggest you try to put in your Repeat Medication request 1 week before needed. This will allow time for processing and for you to obtain your medication from the Pharmacy before running out.

**DO NOT
RE-ORDER
MEDICINES IF
YOU ARE
NOT GOING TO
TAKE THEM!**



REPEAT PRESCRIBING

Medicine Safety

- Always take your medication as prescribed
- Always read the instructions that come with your medicine
- Never share your medication with other people
- Never move medicine from one bottle to another
- Never take medicine from unlabelled containers
- Tell your pharmacist about any medicine that you are taking when buying medicine over the counter
- Dispose of unwanted and unused medicines safely – by taking them to the local pharmacy or dispensary for disposal. Never put them in the dustbin or down the toilet
- Keep all medicines out of the reach of children and pets



Side Effects

- Some medicines may have unwanted effects. Many are minor, harmless or short-lived. If you experience effects which are particularly troublesome or persistent, contact your doctor, nurse or pharmacist
- If you have any queries about your medication **PLEASE ASK**

Key Messages

- Only re-order the medicines you need and use
- Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are not taking a medicine
- If child resistant containers are not convenient, ask for easy to open tops.
- Be sure you ask for large type if necessary



Remember to re-order before you run out and allow extra time for bank holidays and weekends!