

Information for patients considering Private Medical Consultations

When you are referred by your GP to a private specialist for a medical consultation you should be aware of what may happen about any medication needs following the consultation.

Sometimes you may only need one prescription and usually your private specialist will provide a private prescription and you must pay for the medication. Occasionally you may be advised to contact your GP to obtain an NHS prescription for the medication. If you need continued treatment you may be given just one private prescription and advised to return to your GP for NHS prescriptions for continued treatment.

Whether you need one prescription or continued treatment your GP will assess your medication needs in the same way as NHS patients are assessed. A prescription will only be provided if your GP considers there is a clinical need and that an NHS patient would be treated in the same circumstances. In order to judge your clinical need your GP must have received a full clinical report from the private consultant and therefore you may not be able to have a prescription immediately.

The local doctors have agreed to prescribe from a carefully selected list of medications and in line with local policies (a formulary). If the recommendation of your private specialist is for treatment that is not in the formulary then your GP may change the medication in line with the drugs used for NHS patients locally.

Produced on behalf of:

NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS South Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
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