

Repeat Prescriptions



Understanding the changes that could affect you.

1) What are repeat prescriptions?

Many Rotherham residents have a 'repeat prescription', meaning that they can regularly request certain medication(s) without having to see their doctor each time.

Some people order these repeat prescriptions themselves and others choose to use a pharmacy or company to order the medicines on their behalf.

2) What is changing?

The way repeat prescriptions are ordered is changing!

You (or your carer, nominated family member/friend) will have to order your repeat prescription from the GP practice yourself.

From October 2016 we will not accept repeat prescription requests from pharmacies or companies.

3) Why is this happening?

This is safer & more efficient!

This new system will give you more control. Under the current system, many patients have reported that they have built up a large stock of unused medicines that they did not request. This could not be stored safely and used within date. This change will address this **serious safety concern**.

This change will also mean that your GP practice will have a clearer picture of the medicines you do and do not use. This will help with your discussions during your medication review.

Finally, it is important that NHS money is used as efficiently as possible. **Medicines waste costs the NHS in Rotherham £1.5 million every year!**

This change will reduce medicines waste, allowing monies to fund other services to improve the health of the people of Rotherham.

4) When is this changing?

The changes will take place from

October 2016.

5) What is not changing?

If you already order repeat prescriptions directly from your GP practice yourself, you will not be affected and do not need to take any action.

Pharmacies that collect prescriptions from GP practices can still do so.

Pharmacies that deliver medications and other items to you can still do so.

6) Ways to order repeat prescriptions?

From **October 2016** we will not accept repeat prescription requests from pharmacies or companies.

If you need to request a repeat prescription you can only do this by one of the following approved ways:

- order online
- via practice repeat box
- via post

The easiest way to order your repeat prescription is online!

Ask at reception on how to do this.

7) Right hand side of your prescription?

You can tear off the white slip on the right hand side of your prescription, tick what you need and drop/post it into your GP practice.

Please only order the medicines that you need.

Please check how many days medicine you have left before ordering your repeat prescription.

Please do not order until you only have 7 days of medicines left. It usually takes the surgery 2–3 working days to issue a repeat prescription.

8) How do I get more help understanding this change?

If you feel you might need support ordering your repeat prescription or you know someone who might need help, please contact reception at the practice.

