

# Harrison Wing Pharmacy

This leaflet explains more about the Harrison Wing Pharmacy service. If you have any further questions, please speak to one of the Harrison Wing pharmacists.

## What should I do when I receive a prescription?

Every time you receive a prescription from your doctor at the Harrison Wing, you need to **take it to the Harrison Wing Pharmacy first**. One of the pharmacists there will screen your prescription. This involves a number of checks to ensure that your medicine(s) have been prescribed accurately and are safe and appropriate for you to take.

The pharmacist will check:

- your blood results
- your medicine supply records
- how much medication you already have at home, to prevent over-supply or under-supply (if we give you too much then your medicines may go out of date)
- what other medicines you take (so they can check whether the medicines will interact with your HIV medication)

They will ask you about any medicines you are prescribed by your GP and whether you take any herbal or over-the-counter medication. Please bring the names of any other medicines that you take to your appointment to allow the pharmacist to do this.

## What happens next?

Once your prescription has been screened by a Harrison Wing pharmacist, they will give it back, so you can take to the **Out Patient Pharmacy** (along the corridor from the Harrison Wing, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Southwark Wing, Guy's Hospital) where they will give you your medicines. The Out Patient Pharmacy will not supply your medication unless your prescription has been screened by a Harrison Wing pharmacist first.

## What if I do not have time to wait for my medication?

If you do not wish to wait once you have taken your prescription to the pharmacy, you can come back and collect your medicines from the Out Patient Pharmacy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southwark Wing, Guy's Hospital at your convenience. This Out Patient Pharmacy is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am - 6.30pm and Wednesdays 12.30pm - 8.30pm. **You cannot collect your medicines at any other time or from any other location.**

## What if I have questions about my medicines?

The Harrison Wing pharmacists can answer any questions that you may have about your medicines. They will give you advice on how to take your medicines and get the most from them, particularly when you start or switch treatment. They are available to discuss side effects and will check for interactions with any other medicines you are currently taking. If you are starting any

new medication, please let the Harrison Wing pharmacists know so that any interactions can be checked. A Harrison Wing pharmacist is available to speak to you in the clinic, or you can contact them using the details provided at the end of this leaflet.

## Why is it also important to tell other healthcare professionals that I am taking these medicines?

Certain drugs should not be taken in combination with some HIV medicines as they can affect how well they work, or they may increase the risk of certain side effects. This may include prescribed medicines, inhalers, medicines you buy from the chemist, herbal or traditional medicines and recreational drugs. It may also include 'once only' medication and medicines administered to you at regular intervals, for example, injections. **Letting other healthcare professionals know that you take these medicines means they can also check for drug interactions and contact Harrison Wing Pharmacy for advice.**

## Medication Requests

It is very important that you attend your doctor appointments so that you receive regular prescriptions. If you are going to run out of medication before your next appointment and need an emergency prescription, you should ring the **Harrison Wing Pharmacy** as soon as possible. You will need to give your name, hospital number, date of birth and the date of your next doctor appointment date.

Prescriptions are usually available **after 4pm the next day and on the following Monday if you request a prescription on a Friday (for Bank Holidays it will be the following Tuesday)**. A emergency prescription is usually a one-month supply and is at the discretion of the prescriber.

All emergency prescriptions must be collected from the **Harrison Wing Pharmacy**. If you are unable to collect your prescription during Harrison Wing Pharmacy opening hours, let us know and we can arrange for it to go to the **Out Patient Pharmacy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Southwark Wing, Guy's Hospital** for you to collect (see overleaf for opening times).

### Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about the medicines prescribed for you in the Harrison Wing, or about the **Harrison Wing Pharmacy Service**, please see us in clinic or contact us on **020 7188 2618** (opening hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am – 5.30pm, Wednesday 1.30 pm - 8pm).

For any other health-related enquiries, please call the **Harrison Wing nurses** on **020 7188 2641** (8.30am - 6pm).

For any other queries including appointments, please call the **Harrison Wing Reception** on **020 7188 2815** (8.30am – 6pm).

### Pharmacy Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your medicines, please speak to the staff caring for you or call our helpline.

**t:** 020 7188 8748 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

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