

# Patient information on self-administration of medicines

## Introduction

The Self-Administration of Medicines Programme at Royal Papworth Hospital allows certain patients to take control of their own medicines while they are in hospital if they wish.

The nurse will explain the programme to you first and give you time to read this information leaflet so that you can make an informed decision as to whether you would like to be considered for this programme.

Through this programme we aim to help you:

- understand the purpose of your medication
- know how to take your medicines correctly and safely
- be aware of potential side effects
- understand more about your condition

If you agree to participate in the Self-Administration of Medicines Programme you will be asked to sign a **consent form**.

Your medicines will be locked in the locker – you will agree a keycode with your nurse, or if you are on day ward you will have a key to your locker.

## How the system operates

1. The nurse will check that the medicines you have brought into hospital with you have been prescribed on Lorenzo (our electronic prescription chart) or, for day cases, that you have an up-to-date list of your medicines (e.g. copy of your repeat prescription) available on the ward – if there are any medicines you have not brought with you please bring this to the attention of the nurse/pharmacist.
2. Your medicines will be locked in the locker - **sign the Self-Administration of Medicines consent form**.
3. Continue taking your medicines as usual, unless you have been asked to omit any whilst in hospital. If requested please complete any paper record of the medicines you've taken (e.g. blue book for transplant patients) and communicate with your nurse so they can document this on the electronic system.

When you require a further supply of your medicine, either:

- Ask your ward pharmacist at their next visit (do not wait until you completely run out of medicine as sometimes it takes a couple of days to order supplies)

OR

- Tell the nurse when they come to document your medication.

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4. A 7-day supply of medicines will be dispensed by the pharmacy with a full discharge label, i.e. your name, the name of the medicine and directions for use will be on the label so that you can take them home on discharge.
5. If any of your medicines have not been prescribed or if any changes have been made that you are not sure about, please bring this to the attention of the nurse/ pharmacist. **It is important that you take the correct medicines and that we have an accurate record of what you have taken.**
6. When you are discharged you will be given the medicines from your locker and any other medicines you need will be dispensed from pharmacy – you should be discharged with at least a **one-week** supply of all new or changed medicines. Where you have used up your own medicines in hospital these will be replaced.
7. It is important that your medicines are kept in the lockers and are out of sight at all times.
8. It is important that you only take medications that are prescribed for yourself.