



Guidance on prescriptions after seeing a private doctor

Can I get my private prescription transferred to an NHS prescription?

If you see a private doctor or specialist and they recommend a particular medication or treatment for you, this will be a private prescription. The GP practice will **not** be able to transfer a private prescription onto a NHS prescription.

In order to obtain your medication with a private prescription, you will need to take the prescription to a private or high street chemist; the NHS is unable to dispense medications from a private prescription.

What happens when I continue the treatment on the NHS?

If your GP is asked to take over the prescribing of a medication or treatment long term, as recommended by a private doctor or specialist, they will need to be satisfied that prescribing is appropriate, responsible and what would be prescribed for other NHS patients with the same diagnosis / condition. The GP must be confident that all appropriate tests and informed consent has been undertaken before they consider issuing a prescription.

Your GP may not prescribe the particular medication suggested by a private doctor in the following circumstances:

- The medication is generally not prescribed on the NHS or in primary care.
- The medication is of a specialist nature and/or requires ongoing monitoring which is outside the expertise of the GP.
- The use of the medication is not compatible with national or local prescribing guidelines.
- The medication is not licensed in the UK or is being used for a purpose not included in its UK licence.
- The GP does not believe the medication is appropriate or necessary for you.
- It is not evident that required tests and/or informed consent has been obtained.

Private consultations will not affect any other medications, which are currently prescribed for you by your GP.

Therefore, you must ensure that the private doctor is aware of ALL the medications you are currently taking so that they do not duplicate any medications or prescribe you medications which interact with your current prescriptions.