

BILLERICAY MEDICAL PRACTICE

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS

28 day Prescriptions

The practice has decided to move all repeat prescriptions from 56 to 28 days

The decision is based on guidance from the local Clinical Commissioning Groups Medicines Management Team and The Department of Health and now brings the practice in line with other local GP Surgeries.

It is recommended that the usual length of repeat prescription supply should not routinely be more than 28 days in line with best practice.

The Department of Health also advises that controlled drugs should be prescribed for no longer than intervals of 30 days.

By moving to 28 days prescriptions this will help the NHS costs by minimising medicines wastage, and where possible reduce harm from stockpiled medicines and improve compliance with medication regimes.

All new repeat prescriptions will from immediate effect be issued for 28 days. All other prescriptions will be changed to 28 days when they are next re-authorised.

Medicines available over the counter

In line with best practice and guidance from the Basildon and Brentwood Clinical Commissioning Group we will no longer be prescribing for items that can be purchased over the counter without a prescription.

An example of the type of items that can be purchased without a prescription can be found on our website www.billericayhealthcentre.co.uk

Funding of medicines available to purchase to treat self-limiting conditions and minor ailments and self-care is a personal responsibility.

It is expected that patients will purchase such medicines after seeking appropriate advice if required, from a healthcare professional.

There is a range of resources for advice on medicines use without the need to see a doctor, e.g. Chemists and NHS 111

Medicines can be purchased over the counter from local chemists and or from supermarkets. These often have extended opening times therefore allowing rapid access and early treatment, rather than delaying treatment by attending a GP for a prescription

Thank you

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