

Shared Care Declined: Your Ongoing Care Pathway Guide

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What Does Shared Care Declined Mean?

A Shared Care Agreement (SCA) is a **formal arrangement between an NHS hospital / secondary care specialist (like PUK) and a GP**, allowing care to be safely shared between both services. It is used when a patient starts a specialist medicine or treatment in hospital that may need ongoing prescriptions or monitoring from their GP. A GP practice may:

- Accept a shared care agreement
- Decline a Shared Care Agreement.
- Not respond to a Shared Care request within the required timeframe.
- Withdraw from a previously accepted shared Care arrangement.

If an SCA is declined, withdrawn or not responded to, the secondary care service, Psychiatry-UK, will assume responsibility for your ADHD prescribing and monitoring requirements through the Ongoing Care Pathway.

What Your Ongoing Care Prescriber Can Help With

Your allocated Ongoing Care Prescriber **can**:

- Review and process repeat prescription requests.
- Ensure continuity of your ADHD medication supply.
- Review your monitoring information to ensure prescribing remains safe.
- Support with routine prescribing queries (within 7 business days).

However, this pathway is **not the same as being under active treatment or titration**.

Through this pathway your allocated Ongoing Care Prescriber **cannot**:

- Change your medication.
- Adjust your dose.
- Restart titration.
- Carry out routine medication reviews outside the pathway requirements.
- Provide open-access prescribing support for treatment changes.

If a medication review or medication change is required, further assessment through the appropriate Psychiatry-UK pathway may be needed. (E.g. Annual Review Team).

Requesting Repeat Prescriptions

To avoid running out of medication:

- Please request your repeat prescription **at least 10 business days before** your medication is due to run out.
- Requests should be made through your patient portal.
- Please do not wait until your medication has nearly finished before contacting us, as this may result in a gap in your treatment.

To prescribe safely, we must also have up-to-date monitoring information, including:

- Blood pressure
- Pulse
- Weight

You will be asked to provide updated observations periodically, and we will send you vital signs form **every six months** or sooner where required. Prescribing may be delayed if the necessary monitoring information is unavailable.

Important

If no prescription has been requested for four months or more, your medication may no longer be suitable for repeat prescribing under this pathway, and a further review may be required before treatment can continue. Please let your prescriber know if any genuine reason for delay to request scripts so it can be evaluated.

Understanding Your Prescriptions

Depending on your NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) locality, your prescriptions will be issued either as an **Electronic Prescription (EPS)** or a **Paper Prescription**. The type of prescription you receive is determined by local NHS arrangements and is not a patient choice, so we are unable to offer an alternative format.

Electronic Prescription Service (EPS)

An EPS prescription is sent electronically to your nominated pharmacy.

How to request EPS prescriptions:

- Ensure you have nominated a pharmacy.
- Include your nominated pharmacy details when contacting us.
- Request your prescription through the patient portal as normal.

Paper Prescriptions

A paper prescription can be sent to our partner pharmacy or to your home address.

With a paper prescription:

- The prescription is printed and physically signed.
- It is sent by post.
- Delivery times can vary depending on the postal service.

How to request a paper prescription:

- Submit your repeat prescription request through the patient portal in the usual way.
- Ensure your address is up to date.
- Allow additional time for printing, signing, and postal delivery.

Why Timing Is Important

Whether you receive EPS or a paper prescription, we strongly recommend requesting medication **at least 10 days before you run out** to allow adequate processing time and prevent interruptions to treatment.

Prescription Delivery Options and Costs (Paper Prescriptions Only)

When requesting your medication, you will be offered different options for how your prescription is processed. The costs you pay can vary depending on whether your prescription is issued as an NHS prescription (green) or a private prescription (pink).

Note: This is not optional but rather associated with your NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB) locality.

If Your Prescription Is Sent to Our Partner Pharmacy

Patients with Pink/Private Prescriptions

This includes:

- Private patients.
- Some Right to Choose (RTC) or NHS patients where an NHS prescribing cost-centre code is not available.

If your prescription is sent to our partner pharmacy, you will **not pay the full private cost of the medication**. The partner pharmacy has arrangements in place to dispense these prescriptions appropriately.

Patients with Green NHS Prescriptions



If your prescription is issued on a green NHS prescription

- You will only pay the standard NHS prescription charge (where applicable).
- If you are entitled to free NHS prescriptions, no charge will apply.
- NHS Prescription Prepayment Certificates (PPCs) can be used where eligible.

If Your Prescription Is Sent to Your Home Address

Patients with Pink/Private Prescriptions

If a pink private prescription is sent to your home address and you take it to a local pharmacy:

- You will be responsible for paying the **full private cost of the medication at the pharmacy. This could be £100-200 or more.**
- NHS prescription charges and NHS Prescription Prepayment Certificates **cannot** be used for private prescriptions.
- The amount charged can vary between pharmacies.
- Some pharmacies may also charge an additional private dispensing fee.

Important: Local pharmacies are generally unable to reclaim the cost of medication supplied against a private prescription from the NHS or your Integrated Care Board (ICB). **For this reason, the full medication cost must be paid by the patient.**

Patients with Green NHS Prescriptions

If you receive a green NHS prescription at your home address and take it to a pharmacy:

- You will pay the standard NHS prescription charge only (unless exempt).
- NHS Prescription Prepayment Certificates can be used.
- The cost will not be the full private medication price.

If You Have Concerns About Your Medication

Please **let us know** if you experience:

- New side effects.
- Changes to your physical health.
- Changes to your mental health.
- Concerns regarding how your medication is working.

If you experience new side effects, have concerns about how your medication is working, or notice any changes in your health, please contact the service for advice. If your symptoms are severe, worsening, or causing you significant concern, please seek urgent medical advice by contacting NHS 111.



When Taking Stimulant Medications

If you are taking a **stimulant medication** (such as methylphenidate, lisdexamfetamine or dexamfetamine), **you can stop taking the medication immediately** if necessary and seek advice from the service as soon as possible.

When Taking Non-Stimulant Medications

If you are taking **atomoxetine (a non-stimulant medication)**, **abrupt withdrawal in higher doses are not recommended therefore speak to a clinician** if possible, but if for any reason you have stopped medication please monitor for any symptoms and seek medical advice asap.

If you are taking guanfacine (**a non-stimulant medication**), you should **not stop the medication without first seeking medical advice**, unless you have been told to do so by your allocated clinician. Depending on your dose you will have to reduce the dose gradually.

If you require urgent support, please follow the guidance available on the Psychiatry-UK website: [Do You Need Urgent Help? | Psychiatry-UK Limited](#)

What Happens If My GP Accepts Shared Care Later?

In some situations, your GP may initially decline, or be assumed to have declined, a Shared Care Agreement but later decide to accept it.

If this happens:

- Psychiatry-UK will liaise with your GP to confirm the Shared Care Agreement is in place.
- Once shared care is established, responsibility for issuing your routine ADHD prescriptions will transfer to your GP practice.
- We will let you know when this change takes effect and whether there are any actions required from you.
- You should continue requesting prescriptions from Psychiatry-UK until you have been informed that the transfer has been completed.

After shared care has transferred:

- You will request your ADHD prescriptions directly from your GP practice, following their usual repeat prescription process.
- You should allow your GP practice sufficient time to process repeat prescription requests.
- You should continue attending any required monitoring appointments and reviews requested by your GP or Psychiatry-UK.
- If your medication requires review, adjustment, or specialist input in the future, your GP may refer you back to Psychiatry-UK as outlined within the Shared Care Agreement.

Important

Do not stop requesting prescriptions from Psychiatry-UK or start requesting them from your GP until you have received confirmation that the Shared Care Agreement has been accepted and prescribing responsibility has formally transferred.

Keeping Us Informed – Changes to Your Circumstances

Please **notify us if you:**

- If you are currently receiving ADHD treatment or ADHD medication from another provider, please inform your ongoing care prescriber straight away.
- Start any new prescribed medication.
- Begin taking over-the-counter medicines or supplements.
- Develop new physical or mental health conditions.
- Become pregnant or start breastfeeding.
- Change your use of alcohol, recreational drugs or other substances.

This information is important because it can affect the safety of your ADHD medication and help us identify potential medication interactions or risks.

Pregnancy and Breastfeeding

If you are planning a pregnancy, become pregnant, or are currently breastfeeding, please let us know as soon as possible. ADHD medications may require review during pregnancy and breastfeeding to ensure the safest approach for both you and your baby.

Please get in touch as early as possible so we can advise on managing your ADHD during pregnancy. We can discuss the potential benefits and risks of continuing treatment and help you make an informed decision about your care.

For more information about ADHD medication during pregnancy, please see our patient guide: [ADHD, Medication and Pregnancy](#)

Travelling With ADHD Medication

If you plan to travel abroad:

- Check the medication import requirements for your destination country well in advance.
- Some countries have restrictions on ADHD medications.

If you require a Controlled Drug travel letter, please contact us through the patient portal **at least four weeks before you travel** and provide:

- Destination country or countries.
- Travel dates.
- Confirmation of which ADHD medication you will be taking.

Important

- A standard travel letter currently costs a **£20 fee**.
- A travel letter **does not** guarantee entry with medication.
- **You remain responsible** for complying with the laws and regulations of the country you are visiting.

Keeping Your Medication Safe

Please:

- Store medication securely and out of reach of others.
- Never share your medication with another person.
- Take only the dose that has been prescribed to you.
- Keep medication secure while travelling.

If your medication is lost or stolen:

- Report the incident to the police to provide us with a Crime reference number (CRN)
- Inform Psychiatry-UK as soon as possible.

Please be aware that replacement prescriptions for controlled medications cannot always be provided.

Annual Reviews and Ongoing Monitoring

Patients within the Shared Care Declined pathway continue to receive:

- Physical health monitoring: A review of blood pressure, pulse, and weight every 6months
- Annual ADHD reviews when due.

These reviews help ensure your treatment continues to be safe and effective.

Need Help?

If you have questions about your medication, prescription arrangements, monitoring requirements, or any changes in your circumstances, please contact us through your patient portal.

We are committed to supporting your treatment safely and ensuring continuity of your ADHD medication.

Kind Regards,

Ongoing Care Team

Resource Links

- Resources Area: <https://psychiatry-uk.com/resources/>
- How to Seek Urgent Help: <https://psychiatry-uk.com/urgent-help/>
- Safe Storage of Medication Leaflet: <https://psychiatry-uk.com/download/210539/?tmstv=1732796152&v=210540>
- How to check your blood pressure: <https://psychiatry-uk.com/download/212938/?tmstv=1768396117&v=212939>
- How to take your pulse: <https://psychiatry-uk.com/download/209967/?tmstv=1729689721>
- ADHD, Medication and Pregnancy guide: [ADHD, Medication and Pregnancy](#)
- Wellbeing Pack: <https://psychiatry-uk.com/download/209723/?tmstv=1728307760>