

Peamount Healthcare Rheumatology Service

Dear.....,

We would like to confirm your 2 weeks admission to Peamount Healthcare Rheumatology Services starting on Tuesday @ time Please read carefully:

If you have any **respiratory symptoms** (cough, sore throat, sneeze, runny nose, nasal congestion, etc.), feeling unwell or run down, have fever, diarrhoea, or vomiting, please **DO NOT** come in and contact us immediately.

- The Friday before your admission date, you will get a phone call on your mobile phone confirming the exact time you have to present at the Aberdeen Centre.
- You will be asked some questions about Covid-19 and seasonal flu prior to admission, on admission day and after weekend leave.
- If you are due to have any other **hospital appointment/test** during your 2 weeks stay, we recommend you defer your admission. Please contact us know as soon as possible.
- **Did Not Attend (DNA) and Cancellation Policy.** When patients decline an admission date without rationale:
 - **First decline - patients will be given a second option.**
 - **Second decline – Greenfield Unit will advise the patient that their referral/admission is now cancelled and that they are referred back to their referring clinician (they will be advised of this on the first decline).**
- Please be advised that Staff work as part of a multidisciplinary team which means that information about you will be shared between all team members. We do this in order to ensure that you receive the best possible care and treatment. Sharing information with a person outside the team will only happen in consultation with you, and in accordance with our Vulnerable Adults policy and Child Protection legislation.

Our contact number is 01 – 6010385. We would appreciate if you could reply to this email to let us know that you have received it and read all information enclosed.

Using patients own medication

Please bring 2 weeks' worth of all your medicines with you when you are admitted to Greenfields Rheumatology Unit. This includes OTC medicines, tablets, liquids, creams/gels, medicated patches, inhalers, eye drops and injections. If you are on any "High-Tech" medications, please also bring these with you. Medicines must be in their original boxes or vials. For any medications that need to be refrigerated, remember to bring these items in a cooler bag.

Please do **not** bring blister packs to Greenfields Rheumatology Unit. If you normally use a blister pack, ask your pharmacist **not** to prepare your medicines in a blister pack for this month.

Why am I being asked to bring my own medicines?

We have found that this is a good way to make sure that you can continue taking all your medicines in the same way as you would at home. You will be able to use the medicines that are familiar to you. You will not miss any doses because of delays while medicines that we don't have in stock are ordered. There is also less medicine wasted using this system.

How will my medicines be stored?

Your medicines will be stored in a locked medicines locker at your bedside. Medicines that need special storage, such as a fridge, will be stored in a secure area of the ward. Only nurses and pharmacy staff will have access to your medicines.

How do you make sure this system is safe?

Our staff will check each of the medicines you bring in carefully. Your medicines won't be used if they are found to be damaged or expired. If they are not labelled clearly, we may put a new label on them. A pharmacist will be available to you throughout your stay, should you wish to discuss your medicines with them.

What if I don't have enough of my own medicines, or if I start a new medicine?

It is each patient's responsibility to obtain a 2-week supply of each of their regular medicines, before being admitted. However, where a new medicine or a dose change is prescribed while you are here with us, our pharmacy department will dispense the required medicines.

What happens when I am on weekend leave or discharged?

Your remaining medicines will be returned to you when you are on weekend leave or discharged home. Our staff will check that they are suitable for use and labelled correctly. If you are prescribed a new medicine, we will dispense enough for the duration of your stay. When you are discharged, the doctor will write a new prescription for all your medicines. This can be used to order a re-supply of your medicines from your pharmacy.