

Holly Bank Surgery

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As you are taking Gabapentin or Pregabalin (brand names include: Lyrica, Alzain, Neurontin)

Important Changes

There will be changes that will affect you. The changes are following a government consultation because of concerns around possible misuse and mean that these medicines become a Controlled Drug (CD's). The medicines themselves will not change, but there will be more rules on how they are prescribed and dispensed.

What does this mean for you?

Previously Gabapentin and Pregabalin prescriptions could be sent to your pharmacy using the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS). As of now this can no longer happen, therefore you may need to collect the prescription from the surgery and take it to your pharmacy, or ask your pharmacy to collect your prescription for you from the surgery.

Controlled Drug Prescriptions **MUST** be dispensed by your pharmacist within 28 days of the date on the prescription.

If you are owed any medication by the pharmacy this needs to be collected within 28 days of the date on the prescription.

The quantity on your prescription may be reduced. It is recommended that a maximum of 30 days of CD's should be prescribed, to ensure safety. The prescribing of controlled drugs is closely monitored. This may also mean that you are called in for more regular reviews to make sure the medication is still working.

Make sure that you do not run out of your Gabapentin or Pregabalin, as the Pharmacists are not allowed to provide emergency supplies or loans for controlled drugs without a prescription.

You (or your representative) may be asked for proof of identity when collecting your prescription, and you may be asked to sign that you have received it.

Do you need to do anything?

If you currently get your prescription through the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) then speak to your pharmacist or staff at the Practice.

When you next request a prescription, please be aware that these changes will be in force. This is a nationwide change to the regulations and your GP and Pharmacist are legally required to change practice.