

Self-administration of medicines - patient information leaflet

Taking your own medicines

In this care home, you may be able to be responsible for taking your own medicines, if you express a preference to do so, and it is deemed appropriate. This is known as self-administration of medicines.

- If you wish to be responsible for taking your own medicines, a suitably qualified member of staff will perform a short assessment to ensure that you are a suitable candidate for self-administration.
- If self-administration is appropriate, your medicines will be stored in a lockable medicine bedside cabinet at all times. You will be issued with a key for the cabinet.
- Care home staff will confirm that you have taken your medicines and will update the care home's Medication Administration Record.

Self-administration of medicines is not compulsory so you do not have to take part. If you do not take part, care home staff will administer your medicines.

Medicines safety

- Medicines can be dangerous if not used properly.
- It is your responsibility to keep the medicines and key in a safe place. If you mislay the key, inform a member of the care home staff immediately.
- If a visitor or other resident tries to take your medicines inform a member of the care home staff immediately.
- Do not exceed the prescribed dose.
- Never share your medicines with anyone else.
- If you forget to take a dose of medicine, tell a member of the care home staff.