



**Evelina**  
**London**  
Children's Hospital

**Do you have  
questions about  
your child's  
medicines?**

showing  
we **care**

## **Do you have questions about your child's medicines?**

This leaflet discusses the different types of questions you may have about your child's medicines during their hospital stay.

When your child is in hospital, the doctors may make some changes to their usual medicines, for example, they may change the dose, or start new medicines. It is natural to have some questions or concerns when such changes are made.

You may also have questions about your child's usual medicines, even if no changes have been made to them. Please feel free to discuss any concerns you have with the team looking after your child.

## **What sort of questions can I ask?**

We have listed some of the questions that other patients have asked about their medicines.

Reading through these may help you to think about your child's medicines, and what you may want to ask. You may also think of other questions that are not listed here.

## **Questions about what your child's medicines are and what they do**

- What is the medicine for?
- What does it do and how does it work?
- How long will it take to start working?
- How can I tell if it is working?
- What should I do if I think it isn't working or has stopped working?

## **Questions about using the medicines**

- How should my child take the medicine?
- How long will my child need to take it for?
- If my child has problems swallowing tablets, is there another way to take the medicine?
- What should I do if my child forgets to take a dose?
- How do I get a further supply?

## **Questions about side effects**

- Does the medicine have any side effects?
- How common are the side effects?
- What should I do if my child experiences side effects?

## **Questions about how medicines may affect your child's everyday life**

- Is the new medicine safe to use with my child's other medicines or supplements?
- Will the medicine make my child feel drowsy?

## Who do I ask if I have any questions?

Most members of the team looking after your child (doctors, nurses) should be able to answer these questions.

However, if you want to speak to your pharmacy team, please let your nurse know.

You may find it helpful to look through the list of questions before the pharmacist's next visit. There is some space on page five for you to write down any questions that you may have.

Please let your pharmacist know if you would prefer to have a member of your family with you when you speak to them.

## What do I do if I have any questions about my medicines when I get home?

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines after you leave hospital, you can contact our helpline.

### **Evelina London Medicines Helpline**

**t:** 020 7188 3003

**e:** [letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk)

Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm



## Useful sources of information

### Medicines for Children

Provides practical and reliable advice about giving medicines to children

**w:** [www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/](http://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/)

### Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). To make a complaint, contact the complaints department.

**t:** 020 7188 8801 (PALS)

**e:** [pals@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@gstt.nhs.uk)

**t:** 020 7188 3514 (complaints)

**e:** [complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:complaints2@gstt.nhs.uk)

### Language and accessible support services

If you need an interpreter or information about your care in a different language or format, please get in touch.

**t:** 020 7188 8815

**e:** [languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk](mailto:languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk)

### NHS website

Online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you take control of your health and wellbeing.

**w:** [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

For more leaflets on conditions, procedures, and services offered at our hospitals, visit

**w:** [www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/leaflets](http://www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/leaflets)

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A list of sources is available on request