



Evelina
London
Children's Hospital

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

showing
we **care**

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

When your child is in hospital, the doctors might make some changes to their usual medicines. For example, they might change the amount they take (dose), or start new medicines. It is natural to have some questions when such changes are made.

You might also have questions about your child's usual medicines, even if no changes have been made to them.

You can always discuss any concerns you have, with the team looking after your child.

The sort of questions you can ask

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

Reading through these might help you to think about your child's medicines, and what you might want to know. You might also have 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 more of the medicine?

Questions about side effects

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

Questions about how medicines might 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 to ask if you have questions

Most members of the team looking after your child (doctors, nurses) should be able to answer these questions. If you want to speak to your pharmacy team, please let your nurse know.

You might find it helpful to look through the list of questions before the pharmacist's next visit. There is some space on page 5 for you to write down any questions you 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 to do if you have any questions about your medicines when you 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

phone 020 7188 3003

email letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk

Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm

Questions or concerns I have about my child's medicines

Useful sources of information

Medicines for Children

Provides practical and reliable advice about giving medicines to children

web www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/

Your comments and concerns

For advice, support or to raise a concern, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS), **phone** 020 7188 8801

email pals@gstt.nhs.uk.

To make a complaint contact the resolution department **phone** 020 7188 3514

email 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, **phone** 020 7188 8815

email languagesupport@gstt.nhs.uk

NHS website

This website gives information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you take control of your health and wellbeing,

web www.nhs.uk

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

web www.guysandstthomas.nhs.uk/leaflets

Leaflet number: 4009/VER3

Date published: May 2023

Review date: May 2026

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