INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Prescribing following assessment or treatment in the private healthcare sector

It is the position of the Sussex Partnership Trust that our prescribers e.g. doctors, can provide some medicines on the NHS on advice from a clinician in the private sector.

However, there are a number of circumstances when our prescribers will refuse the request, or offer to prescribe an alternative medicine.

Our prescribers will not prescribe it if it is an unlicensed medicine. He or she may also refuse to prescribe if:

- A letter explaining the full rational for the treatment has not been provided by the consultant in the private sector.
- He or she feels the medicine is not clinically necessary.
- The medication is prescribed outside of its licensed indication.
- The medication is not one he or she would normally prescribe.
- The medication needs special monitoring and he or she feels they do not have the expertise to do this.
- The use of the medication conflicts with NICE guidance or locally agreed protocols.
- An equivalent but equally effective medicine is prescribed locally under prescribing advice from the Sussex Partnership NHS Trust. In this situation you will be offered the equivalent medicine.

In any of these circumstances you will retain the option of purchasing the recommended medicine via a prescription from your consultant in the private sector.

There is also no provision for refunding any money already spent on private treatment, including medicines.

Dr Rick Fraser, Chief Medical Officer

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If you require this leaflet in an alternative format, ie easy read, large text, audio, Braille or a community language please contact the Pharmacy Team on 01243 623349 (Text Relay calls welcome)