INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Prescribing following assessment or treatment in a tertiary (specialist) NHS centre

It is the position of the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust that our prescribers e.g. doctors, can provide most medicines on the NHS on advice from a clinician in a tertiary (specialist) NHS centre.

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

Our prescribers will not usually 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 from the tertiary (specialist) NHS unit.
- 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.

When a decision is made to not prescribe or to use an alternative medicine to that initiated or recommended by a consultant from a tertiary (specialist) NHS unit, a full explanation will be given to you and a record of the conversation recorded in your notes.

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)