

### **Serial Prescriptions at Newland Medical Practice**

A serial prescription is a new type of prescription for medicines taken for long-term conditions. A serial prescription means that you can get your regular, repeat medicines straight from your pharmacy without having to order a prescription from your GP beforehand. Your GP or pharmacy team working in the practice may have suggested that you are suitable for serial prescriptions which are valid for 24 to 56 weeks once issued. This means you won't need to order your repeat medicines from your GP practice during that time. Instead, your nominated pharmacy will keep hold of your serial prescription and supply your medicines usually every 8 weeks (56 days). However, not all your items on your repeat list may be suitable to be issued on a serial prescription. If this is the case, these items will still need to be ordered from your GP practice when you require them, such as controlled medication etc.

### **What happens if my medicines change or if I start a new one?**

If your medication regime has changed outwith your serial prescription (e.g. if your dose has changed while you have been in hospital), it is important you make sure your GP is aware of these changes as they can stop and/or change your serial prescription items when needed. If this happens, the GP practice will inform your pharmacy of any changes so the items can no longer be dispensed as part of your serial prescription. You may wish to inform your pharmacy yourself as well of any changes. At this point your GP may switch your medication back to a normal repeat prescription if needed until they are happy that the new or changed medication is best suited for you, or they will produce a new serial prescription for the item in question for your pharmacy to dispense from.

### **What happens when my serial prescription is due to run out?**

Your pharmacy will contact your GP practice to request a new serial prescription.

### **Can I use other pharmacies?**

If you have been issued serial prescriptions you will need to collect your serial prescription medicines from your nominated pharmacy you are registered with. However, you can go to any other pharmacy with other prescriptions, to buy medicine or to get advice.

If you have any other questions, please speak with your community pharmacy, or the practice pharmacy team.