

Patient Information Leaflet

The Adam Practice

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THE ADAM PRACTICE

Clinical Pharmacist

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www.rpharms.com

CLINICAL PHARMACISTS are highly qualified health professionals who train for many years to become specialists in medicines and how they work.

They can work directly with you, as part of the general practice team, to make sure your medicines help you get better and stay well.

Having a clinical pharmacist in the practice team means you can be treated by the best professional for your needs.

All pharmacists are registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council.

WHEN WILL I SEE A CLINICAL PHARMACIST?

You will see a clinical pharmacist when you need expert advice on your medication.

If your condition needs diagnosing, you will usually see your GP first, who may then refer you on to a practice nurse or clinical pharmacist.

Below are some examples of how a clinical pharmacist can help:

LONG TERM CONDITIONS

If you have a condition such as asthma, type 2 diabetes, arthritis or high blood pressure, the clinical pharmacist can discuss the medicines you're taking to make sure they're working for you. They can also help you with lifestyle changes to help you manage your condition.

EXPERIENCING SIDE EFFECTS

If you are experiencing side effects from your medicines, you and the clinical pharmacist can discuss this and work together to find a solution, such as changing your medicine or the dosage.

If you are taking a number of different medicines, they can help make sure they are working well together.

REVIEWING YOUR MEDICINES

If you are taking medicines long-term, you should be seen for a review at least once a year.

The clinical pharmacist can review all your medicines, discuss how they are working for you and carry out health checks, such as taking your blood pressure. They can also arrange for you to have blood or other tests.

AFTER A STAY IN HOSPITAL

If your medicines have been changed while you were in hospital, the clinical pharmacist can help explain these changes and ensure you get the maximum benefit from these medicines.

COMMON ILLNESSES

If you are suffering from a common illness such as a cold, hay fever, diarrhoea or an eye infection, you may see the clinical pharmacist instead of the GP. Whilst most common illnesses can be self-treated at home with over the counter medications and advice from your local pharmacy, the clinical pharmacist may be able to prescribe medicines to treat your condition. You will always be referred to a GP if there is a need.

YOUR APPOINTMENT

Just as when you see a GP or a practice nurse, you will see a clinical pharmacist in a private consultation room.

Seeing the pharmacist does not replace an appointment with a doctor. You will still be able to see a GP if you need to.

Our clinical pharmacists can write a prescription for your medicines but you will still have to collect your medicines from your local pharmacy in the usual way.

Please let the surgery know if you need to cancel or reschedule your appointment, so that another patient can benefit from it instead.

For more information and case studies, please visit NHS England at www.england.nhs.uk/commissioning/primary-care-comm/gp-action-plan/cp-gp-pilot

And the Royal Pharmaceutical Society at www.rpharms.com/our-campaigns/pharmacists-and-gp-surgeries

THE ADAM PRACTICE—PATIENT TESTIMONIAL (NHS CHOICES):

“I received excellent service from the clinical pharmacist, having arranged a telephone consultation. All my medication was painstakingly reviewed and I cannot rate this service more highly. This is a brilliant addition to the practice and will presumably allow the GPs more time to deal with patients.”

The content provided in this leaflet is for information purposes only.. Information obtained in this leaflet is subject to personal interpretation and can become obsolete, thus accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Please consult your own healthcare provider regarding any medical issues. Last updated Sept 2017