**What is Electronic Repeat Dispensing (eRD)?**

Your GP issues a batch of prescriptions electronically to the pharmacy which they can dispense in the usual way. When you are due your next supply of medicines, the pharmacy already has the prescription and can dispense it to you without the need to contact the surgery. This means that for the agreed period (up to a year) you simply have to go to the pharmacy to collect your medications unless your medication changes.

**Benefits of eRD**

eRD allows your GP to prescribe your regular medicines for up to a year. It’s reliable, secure and confidential. Your regular prescriptions are stored securely on the NHS database, so they'll be ready at the pharmacy each time you need them.

Using eRD you can:

* save time by avoiding unnecessary trips or calls to your GP every time you need to order a repeat prescription
* pick up your repeat prescriptions directly from your pharmacy without having to visit your GP
* save paper – you won’t need a paper prescription to collect your medicine from the pharmacy

**What if there have been changes that may affect my medications?**

Each time you collect your next supply of medicines from the pharmacy, the pharmacist will ask you a selection of questions to ensure that your medications remain current and suitable.

Let your pharmacist if you do not need every item when you go to collect; only take what you need until your next collection.

**What happens at the end of the batch?**

Your pharmacy will let you know when they have issued you your last batch prescription. At this point you will need to request a new batch of prescriptions and may need a review to assess whether you are suitable to continue on eRD. Please contact the surgery to make an appointment in plenty of time before your medications run out. This will help to ensure that you stay on the repeat dispensing system.

**What if I don’t attend for a review?**

If you choose not to attend for a review, you will be automatically classed as unsuitable to continue on eRD, as it has not been possible to assess your stability on your medications.

**What if I want to change my nominated pharmacy?**

You can choose to change your nominated pharmacy at any point during the eRD period. Simply ask your new pharmacy to register you and they can access any remaining prescriptions that have not yet been dispensed.

**What if I leave the surgery?**

If you decide to leave the surgery, we are obligated to cancel any remaining prescriptions that we have issued and you will need to arrange for a new supply of medication to be given by your new surgery, so please give yourself time to arrange this.

**What if I’m going on holiday?**

If you are going on holiday and will run out of medication whilst away, your pharmacy can access your next prescription early and dispense it for you. The prescription due after that will be ready at the normal time in the future.

*If you are taking regular medications that don’t often change then please consider signing up for Electronic Repeat Dispensing*

*You can sign up now by giving us your consent to share your information with your nominated pharmacy via eConsult and select “I want Administrative help”*