

Frequently Asked Questions

My drug use is out of control, can I get on a prescription?

YES: Recognising that things are out of control, or that you want things to change, is a useful starting point. We can talk through treatment options with you and prioritise your safety. Your recovery can include Opiate Substitution Treatment (OST) and we can give you advice about this. You will be asked to provide regular toxicology tests so we can accurately track your stability. We may be unable to provide additional medication without these test results.

I am dependent on other illegal/illicit drugs; can you help me?

YES: We are aware that some patients are dependent on other substances, for example illicit benzodiazepines (such as Xanax or diazepam). Let staff know about your drug use and we will then collaboratively decide on the most appropriate treatment.

We do not recommend diazepam as a treatment for anxiety. Whilst it may feel helpful to you in the short term, it can make anxiety worse in the long term. We will talk about diazepam dependence with you and support you to reduce illicit use.

I am alcohol dependent; can you help me?

YES: We can prescribe medications for alcohol dependence. Some people require hospital admission to stop drinking (known as alcohol detoxification). We can refer you for this if it is appropriate. In some cases, we are able to help with a Planned Community Detoxification (commonly known as Community Detox). This involves visiting the service daily for one week to monitor your alcohol intake and to receive medication to help you with symptoms you may experience once you begin to withdraw from alcohol.

Note: People who are alcohol dependent, with a high alcohol consumption, run the risk of seizures if they reduce their intake too quickly without professional support and advice.

Can I get prescriptions for other medications in The Recovery Clinic?

YES: If you are taking other medication, we would generally supply prescriptions at the same time as your OST. The GP may wish to speak with you before issuing a prescription to you (for example if it is medication for pain relief).

Can you help me with my mental health?

YES: We know many of the people we support have mental health needs. Please speak with staff you see in the clinic and they will guide you appropriately.

I may find it difficult to say what I really want to at my appointment; is there anyone who can help me with this?

YES: Advocard offer individual advocacy and are at The Access Place on Tuesdays between 10am - 12pm. They work independently from The Access Place and can work alongside you to help express your viewpoint.

Can you tell me about Recovery Groups?

There are many types of groups, from football to music to nature and much more. Ask to speak with one of our Recovery Support Workers.

I don't like seeing different people all the time, can I see the same person?

You can request to see the same person. Please let staff know your preference. However, this may not always be possible, and we apologise in advance for this.

I need a sickness certificate. Can you give me one in The Recovery Clinic?

YES: Please let staff know when you need a 'Sickness Certificate' (we call it a Med 3 form).

What happens if I am planning to travel?

We understand how important visiting family and friends and having holidays is. Please request an appointment to discuss this. We will need sufficient notice of your intention to travel so that we can organise your medication.

Note: We are not able to issue prescriptions for travel over the telephone, you will need to attend a clinic appointment.

Can I get a bus pass and leisure card in The Recovery Clinic?

Recovery Support Workers in the clinic can assist with this. They can also connect you with other services to help you in your recovery journey.

What happens if I want to leave treatment?

You can remain in treatment for as long as you want to. If you decide you want to leave treatment, please discuss this with us and we will provide support to ensure you do this safely.



The Access Place

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