



# Medicines for children

## Information for parents and children



Respecting everyone  
Embracing change  
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Working together  
**Our hospitals.**

**Above + Beyond**   
For Patients. For Health. For Bristol.

## General advice



Keep medications in the original container to reduce the risk of taking the wrong medicine.



Keep all medicines out of the reach and sight of children. If child resistant containers are not convenient for you, ask for easy open ones.



Make sure you can read the label. Ask a member of staff if the directions are not clear.



Please pay attention to any warnings displayed on the container or included in information provided with any medication.



Some medicines may have unwanted side effects. Many are minor, harmless, or short-lived. Contact your pharmacist, nurse or doctor about any persistent or troublesome side effects.

## Further supplies



Further supplies can usually be obtained from your GP and community pharmacist. However:

- some medications need to be prescribed by the hospital, for example if special monitoring is required or if the medication is specially made (an unlicensed medicine)
- some medications may need to be ordered in advance by the community pharmacist. Further information is provided with discharge medication or on request from the children's hospital pharmacy.



Make sure you check the expiry on the packaging and order further supplies in advance to avoid running out.



Some liquid medications come in different strengths. Always check the strength of new supplies. Remember, if the strength changes, the amount you need to give will normally change. Always read the label when collecting a new supply. Ask your pharmacist if you have any questions.

## More information



Ask your pharmacist, nurse or doctor if you have any questions while in hospital.



If you have any further questions about your medicines when you are at home, see the leaflet provided with the medication. Sometimes, information in the leaflet may not apply to children.



Some information leaflets about specific medicines for children can be found at:

<http://www.medicinesforchildren.org.uk/index.php>

You can contact the pharmacy at the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children on **0117 342 8458**.

Please note that if for any reason you would value a second opinion concerning your diagnosis or treatment, you are entirely within your rights to request this.

The first step would usually be to discuss this with the doctor or other lead clinician who is responsible for your care.

Smoking is the primary cause of preventable illness and premature death. For support in stopping smoking contact **Smokefree Bristol** on **0117 922 2255**.

As well as providing clinical care, our Trust has an important role in research. This allows us to discover new and improved ways of treating patients.

While your child is under our care, you may be approached about them taking part in research. To find out more please visit: **[www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/research-innovation](http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/research-innovation)** or call the research and innovation team on **0117 342 0233**.

For access to other patient leaflets and information please go to the following address:

**[www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/information-for-patients/](http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/information-for-patients/)**

**Hospital switchboard: 0117 923 0000**



**Minicom: 0117 934 9869**



**[www.uhbristol.nhs.uk](http://www.uhbristol.nhs.uk)**



For an interpreter or signer please contact the telephone number on your appointment letter.



For this leaflet in large print, audio or PDF format, please email [patientleaflets@uhbristol.nhs.uk](mailto:patientleaflets@uhbristol.nhs.uk).

