

If you would like to know more about the information in this leaflet, please ask a member of staff

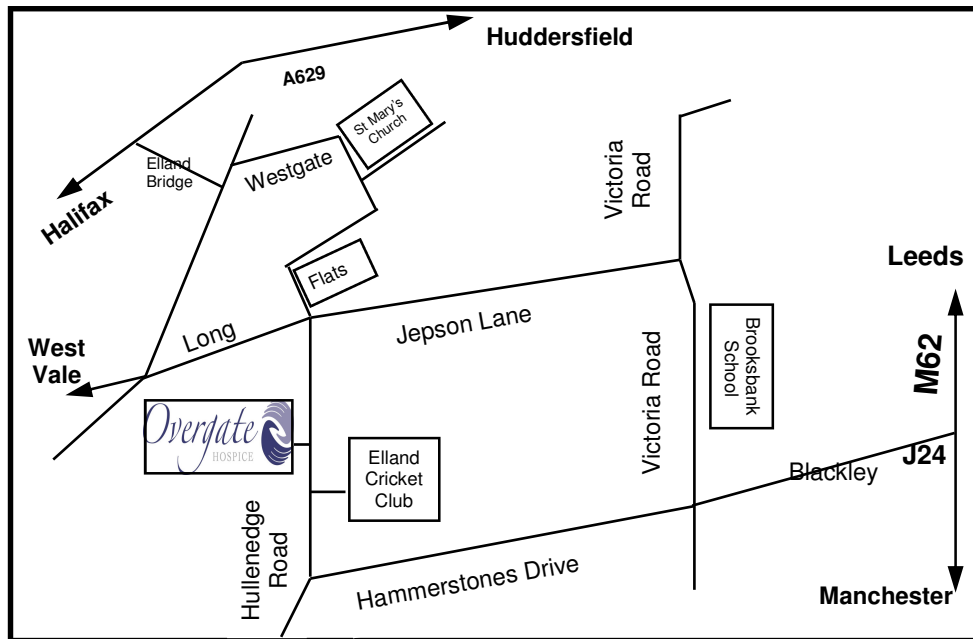
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# You and Your Medication

Information for patients about medication during a stay at Overgate Hospice



This leaflet was reviewed: July 2007  
Next Review due: July 2009

# Welcome to Overgate Hospice Inpatient Unit

***The information in this leaflet is for general guidance only. If you still have some questions after reading this leaflet please talk to the Doctor, Nurse or Pharmacist in the Hospice***

## **What happens to my medicines when I come into the Hospice?**

The Doctors working in the Hospice will review your medicines and discuss them with you. After discussion with you those medicines which are not felt to be necessary at that time moment destroyed by the Pharmacist with your consent.

Medication which needs to be continued will be placed in a locked medicine cupboard at your bedside and will be used during your stay in the Hospice.

## **How are new medicines started?**

The doctors and nurses will assess you and your symptoms. They will discuss with you (and your family if you wish) what medicines may help with the situation, and will talk to you about what they think is the best combination of medicines for you and prescribe them on a medicine chart. The new medicines will be issued by Calderdale Royal Hospital Pharmacy and brought to the Hospice; occasionally there may be a delay in the medicine starting.

## **What happens to strong pain killers?**

By law, strong pain killers have to be kept locked in a special cupboard in a different part of the Hospice. These strong pain killers will be administered to you each time they are needed.

## **Who gives me the medication?**

Your medication will be administered by a Registered Nurse. The Nurse will ask you about your symptoms when giving you your medicine to make sure the medicines are working. If they are not working they will discuss this with you and with the doctor.

## **What happens if I do not like the way the medication makes me feel?**

Your medication will always be discussed with you and your choices will be respected. The doctors and nurses will do their best to ensure that you are prescribed a medicine that suits you. If you do not like a medicine they will do their best to find an alternative for you but this may not always be possible.

## **When are medicines given?**

Medicines are usually given out every four hours on a drug round. These times are around 0900, 1300, 1700, 2100, 0100 and 0500 as needed. You will not be woken up to have medicines unless this is unavoidable. If you have medicines that must be taken at a specific time, this can be organised.

## **Can I look after my own medication whilst I am in the Hospice?**

If you would like to self administer your own medicines whilst in the Hospice please ask the nurse in charge of your care as this may be possible.

## **Is anybody else involved in looking at my tablets?**

A Pharmacist will check your medicines at least once a week during your stay at the Hospice to ensure that you are taking the medication correctly. They will also check that the medicines you are taking work together safely. The Pharmacist will also be able to help you understand your medication if you wish to know more.

## **What happens when I leave the Hospice?**

On being discharged from the Hospice you will be given enough medicine/tablets to last two weeks.

You will be given a list of the tablets you are taking, what they look like and what they are for, as well as what times to take them.

Your GP will also be given a list of the tablets you are taking. It is important for you contact with your GP before your supply of tablets run out to obtain further supplies, unless it is clearly stated on your list that the medication is to be taken for a limited period of time only