



Your regular prescription medicines may be changing

Why could my medicines change?

Where there is an equally effective medicine available at a significantly lower cost, your GP will have changed one or more of your medicines accordingly.

Is it safe for me to change?

The medicines we are changing you to are fully licensed and you are no more likely to experience a side-effect with the new medicine than you may have done with your old one. Your doctor will take into account all the other NHS prescription medicines you are taking.

Will I need extra tests?

For a small number of medicines an extra test may be needed. Some medicine changes will require a period of monitoring and this will be undertaken by your doctor.

How will this benefit patients?

By reducing our spend on medicines by £10 million this year, the NHS in North Central London will continue to be able to pay for the equivalent of 2,000 hip replacements **or** 1,400 heart by-pass operations **or** 14,000 cataract operations **or** 300 Community Nurses.

What should I do with my remaining medicines?

Please continue to take your current medicines until they are finished.

Can I talk to someone about the changes?

Yes. Please contact your GP practice or your local pharmacy. Local pharmacies offer free NHS services that help you get the greatest possible benefit from your prescribed medicines. If you have been prescribed a new or different medicine for certain long-term illnesses (like asthma, diabetes or high blood pressure), or if you want to know more about your regular prescription medicines, your pharmacist will be happy to advise you or arrange a review meeting.

