

## **URGENT MEDICATION POLICY**

**Due to an increasing number of patients requesting prescriptions on an urgent basis, the Practice has established the following Urgent Prescription Policy:**

This policy has been put in place to protect both patients and staff, since requests for prescriptions outside of the normal prescription protocol (allowing at least 48 hours' notice) impacts significantly on both doctors and administration staff, as well as increasing the risk of a medication prescribing errors.

Unless a medication is clinically urgent (included on the Urgent Medication List below), requests will be processed routinely within 48 hours.

Many medications can be safely missed for a couple of days, however, there are several medications that we have considered carefully and deem to be required on an urgent basis in order to prevent patients becoming seriously ill should those medications be missed.

Late requests for medication are not considered as urgent. It is the responsibility of the patient to ensure that their repeat prescriptions are ordered in good time and in line with the normal prescription protocol (providing at least 48 hours' notice).

If you require any of the medications listed below, we will endeavour to provide an urgent prescription, to be issued on the same day that it is requested.

## Urgent Medication List

- Inhalers/Nebuliser solutions (also including theophylline)
- Antiepileptics
- Insulin and other diabetic medication/equipment
- End of life medication
- Antipsychotics
- Antidepressants
- Parkinsons medication
- Adrenaline (EpiPen or equivalent brands)
- Anti-arrythmic medications
- Anti-anginal medications
- Long-term steroids (i.e. Addison disease)
- Copd/asthma rescue packs
- Anticoagulants
- DMARDs
- Lithium
- Specialised baby milks

Please note that if you have forgotten to obtain a prescription for important repeat medications that are not listed above, you may be able to obtain a prescription from your pharmacy. Visit the link below for more information: [Out-of-hours-medicines - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/out-of-hours/medicines)