

Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham

Renal Outpatients Department

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**And Answers**

About

**Kidney Transplant Immunosuppression Repatriation**

April 2017

All the following information is supplied by  
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham  
Renal Department

## **Kidney Transplant Immunosuppression Repatriation**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. Why is my GP no longer prescribing my anti-rejection medication? (immunosuppressant)**

There is now a national requirement for your transplant centre to take over the prescribing and dispensing of your anti-rejection medication.

This will save the NHS a significant amount of money and allow close monitoring of these drugs.

#### **2. Does this include all my medication?**

No, only the following medication will be prescribed by the hospital:

- Tacrolimus / Prograf / Advagraf / Adoport,
- Mycophenolate Mofetil / Cellcept / Myfortic
- Sirolimus / Rapamune
- Cyclosporin/Neoral/Sandimmune
- Valganciclovir
- Atovaquone
- Isoniazid
- Azathioprine

All other medication will continue to be prescribed by your GP. It is essential that your anti-rejection medications remain on the drug list at your GP surgery.

#### **3. How will my medication be managed?**

The kidney transplant team, consisting of consultants, specialist nurses and a dedicated transplant pharmacist will manage the prescription and supply of your anti-rejection medication.

#### **4. How frequently will I need to attend clinic?**

There will be no extra visits to clinic. Your anti-rejection medication will be supplied at your routine kidney transplant clinic visits.

#### **5. When does the transplant follow up clinic run, and who is the lead consultant?**

Clinics run each morning between Monday to Thursday (excluding bank holidays).

The lead clinicians for each day are as follows:

Monday	Dr A Sharif
Tuesday	Dr S Shabir
Wednesday	Dr R Borrows
Thursday	Dr G Lipkin

**6. Do I need to bring anything along to clinic?**

An up to date list of all your current medication (including doses and frequency) will be required.

**7. How will my medication be communicated to my GP?**

We will continue to send your GP a letter following each of your clinic visits. The development of Myhealth@QEHB also allows patients in long-term care to remotely access much of their clinical information. You can speak to your clinical nurse specialist or consultant about this.

**8. What happens if my clinic appointment is changed by me or the hospital?**

If you are going to run short of your anti-rejection medication before your next clinic visit please contact the pharmacy team via email or telephone;  
Tel: 07733310973  
The transplant pharmacist will assist with the prescription and supply of your anti-rejection medication.

**9. What happens if I do not attend or miss my appointment?**

If you are unable to make your clinic visit please contact the Renal Clerks on 0121 371 4446. The Renal Clerks will re-arrange your appointment.

If you have missed your clinic visit without prior notification, the kidney transplant team will attempt to contact you via telephone in the first instance. Failing this a letter will then be sent to you and your GP asking for you to make contact with the kidney transplant team to re-book the appointment.

**10. How will I receive my anti-rejection medication supply if I only attend clinic every 3-6 months?**

At your transplant clinic visit you will be supplied with sufficient medication to last until your next appointment.

**11. If I require a prescription between clinic visits what should I do?**

Tel: 07733310973  
The transplant pharmacist will assist with the prescription and supply of your anti-rejection medication.

**12. Will I have to come to the hospital to pick up my prescription?**

No, the anti-rejection medication will be supplied at clinic visits.

**13. What happens if my dose changes and I do not have the right combination of doses?**

The transplant pharmacist will contact you following dose changes to ensure you have the right combination. Alternatively, you can contact the pharmacy team via email or telephone for assistance.

Tel: 07733310973

**14. If I am going on holiday and will run out of medication, what should I do?**

Please inform the kidney transplant team of your intended holiday when you attend for your outpatient clinic review. They will provide holiday advice and a fitness to travel letter. Extra medication will be arranged if required.

If you are going on holiday between clinic visits please contact the transplant pharmacist via email or telephone. They will assist with the supply of extra medication.

Tel: 07733310973.

**15. What happens if I am experiencing problems / side effects with my anti-rejection medication?**

If you are feeling unwell or are unable to tolerate the side effects of your anti-rejection medication, please contact the Transplant Nurse Specialists on: 0121 371 5630. It is important you do not stop these medications yourself. The transplant team will advise on any necessary changes or alternatives.

**16. What are the key contact telephone numbers?**

**Transplant Nurse Specialists**

Jill McCready

Aimee Williams

Cathy Richardson

0121 371 5630

**Pharmacy**

Saehara Khan

07733310973

**Administration support**

Serena Khatri

0121 371 5630