



HORDEN GROUP PRACTICE

Private Prescription Policy

Private prescriptions are issued for medications recommended by your private doctor. Unlike NHS prescriptions, private prescriptions are not funded by the NHS and must be paid for by the patient.

A prescription is a legal document, and the prescriber is responsible for the patient's use and monitoring of the medication. The prescriber must have all relevant information to assess whether the medication is appropriate and to understand any potential risks—especially if they were not involved in the initial referral. When a private doctor has assessed a patient and issued a private prescription, the GP cannot convert it into an NHS prescription or assume responsibility for the medication without having assessed the patient themselves and ensured the medication is safe.

Horden Group Practice are under no obligation to convert private prescriptions into NHS prescriptions.

If a private doctor contacts Horden Group Practice requesting a GP to prescribe a particular medication, we are not obligated to comply. Should a patient seek private medical advice, any recommended medications must be prescribed privately by the private doctor. This applies equally if the patient is self-funding private care rather than using private medical insurance.

Our GPs reserve the right to review prescribing requests based on private doctor recommendations individually, particularly for patients with life-threatening conditions.

Patients should take their private prescriptions to any pharmacy and cover the full cost themselves, which includes the price of the medication but not the standard NHS prescription charge.

Our GPs and NHS prescribers follow strict guidelines, formularies, licensing, and protocols specific to NHS prescriptions. Certain medications cannot be prescribed in primary care (by a GP instead of a hospital consultant). NHS prescriptions are only issued for medications typically available on the NHS.