

23.3 Reciprocal Healthcare Agreement with the UK and Pharmacy Implications

Now that the above has been reinstated, Community Pharmacies on the islands are likely to receive more enquiries about prescribing and dispensing.

You will be aware that UK residents who are temporarily on the islands for up to six months are now entitled to “emergency and necessary healthcare” at public expense. So, if an accident happens and a prescription is needed, the UK visitor is entitled to a prescription under the same terms as a Bailiwick of Guernsey resident. Guernsey prescription exemption rules apply, and the supply of products on the Prescribing List only and for a maximum of 28 days. The link to the media release, with some more information, is as follows

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-and-guernsey-strike-landmark-reciprocal-healthcare-deal>

If a UK resident temporarily in Guernsey presents an NHS prescription, this must be treated as private. The NHSBSA has confirmed that a Guernsey pharmacy contractor will not be reimbursed for any NHS prescription submitted. They have also confirmed that Guernsey prescriptions submitted by an NHS pharmacy will also be disallowed.

Please note that prescriptions for Schedule 2 and 3 controlled drugs must be prescribed by a prescriber with an address within the Bailiwick. So all prescriptions prescribed off-island for Schedule 2 and 3 CDs must be rewritten by a local prescriber. The link to the legislation is as follows.

[https://www.gfsc.gg/sites/default/files/The-Misuse-of-Drugs-\(BoG\)-Law-1974-as-amended.pdf](https://www.gfsc.gg/sites/default/files/The-Misuse-of-Drugs-(BoG)-Law-1974-as-amended.pdf)

If there are any queries or concerns about this, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either Marc or myself.

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