

Oakdale
NHS ADHD Medication Service

What Is Shared Care?

A guide to help you understand and
feel confident about Shared Care

What is Shared Care?

Shared Care is a formal agreement between Oakdale (your specialist ADHD medication service provider) and your GP to work together to support your treatment. With your agreement, your GP can take over prescribing the medication recommended by Oakdale, while Oakdale continues to provide regular reviews of your progress.

Both Oakdale and your GP need to agree to this arrangement. If an agreement is not reached, Oakdale will continue to provide your treatment directly.

Requesting Shared Care process

Once you are fully titrated and stable on your ADHD medication, Oakdale will request a Shared Care Agreement with your GP. Your GP has 2 weeks to respond. If we don't hear back in those 2 weeks, we will assume your GP has accepted the Shared Care Agreement. We will let you know their decision, unless your GP has already told you.

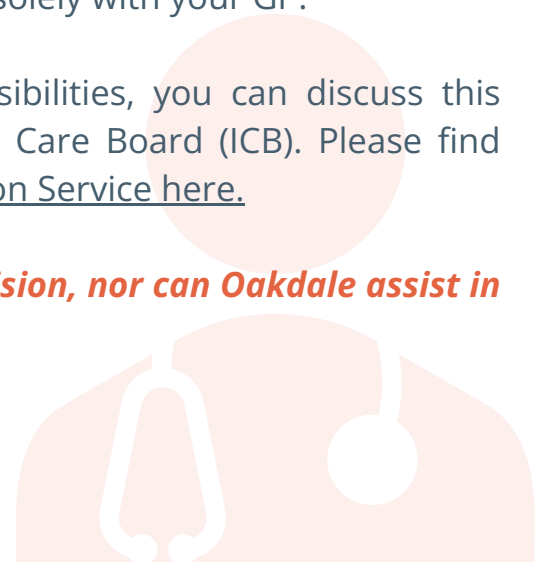
Please note, if your GP does not respond, we will proceed with Shared Care. However, your GP ultimately has the right to decline Shared Care at any time. If they do, we will advise you on next steps, which will include continued prescribing through our service (at no additional charge to you). NHS prescription fees will still apply.

GP's decision regarding Shared Care

The decision to enter into a Shared Care Agreement lies solely with your GP.

If your GP is unwilling to take on prescribing responsibilities, you can discuss this matter directly with them and/or your local Integrated Care Board (ICB). Please find contact details for your relevant [Patient Advice and Liaison Service here](#).

Oakdale is not able to intervene or influence a GP's decision, nor can Oakdale assist in changing your GP's position on Shared Care.



What happens next?

If your GP agrees Shared Care

If your GP accepts shared care, they will provide your repeat prescriptions as part of the shared care agreement and Oakdale will remain as your specialist service provider offering clinical oversight, monitoring your progress through regular reviews to ensure safe and effective care (the frequency of reviews varies for younger children, older children and adults).

Repeat prescriptions are managed through your GP. Oakdale cannot issue prescriptions once Shared Care has been agreed unless otherwise arranged.

If you experience any issues related to your prescriptions, such as delays, medication being out of stock, or needing to request a repeat, you will need to contact your GP practice directly and follow their procedures.

If your GP refuses Shared Care

If your GP refuses shared care, Oakdale will provide your repeat prescriptions and will remain as your specialist service provider offering clinical oversight, monitoring your progress through regular reviews to ensure safe and effective care (the frequency of reviews varies for younger children, older children and adults).

You will need to request your repeat prescriptions from Oakdale, just as you would with your GP. To make sure you don't run out of medication, please send your request at least 7 days before your supply is due to finish. To request your prescription, please email the team on adhdmedication.admin@oakdalecentre.org. Any requests made significantly earlier than your due date will be declined, as prescriptions must be issued in accordance with your treatment schedule to ensure safe prescribing.

Support for GP discussions

We recommend that you keep a record/copies of any correspondence or discussions you have with your GP regarding Shared Care. This can help you stay informed and ensure clarity if any questions or issues arise.

FAQ's

What are the fees and costs to me?

Standard NHS prescription charges still apply when you collect your medication from a pharmacy, regardless of whether Shared Care is accepted or not and whether your prescription is issued by your GP or by Oakdale. The current NHS prescription charge is £9.90*, unless you/your child is exempt.

Will my GP change my dose or medication?

No. Only Oakdale will advise on dose or medication changes. If Shared Care is agreed, your GP will continue prescribing according to the treatment plan provided by Oakdale. Oakdale prescribers will normally only review your medication at your scheduled review appointments. They will not see you more frequently unless there is an urgent need and your GP requests this. At your review, your progress will be assessed and any adjustments made if required.

Until then, please continue taking your medication exactly as advised by your Oakdale nurse prescriber, unless another health professional specifically tells you not to.

Who do I contact if I have side effects?

If your GP has accepted Shared Care, you should contact your GP for advice. Your GP can offer initial support and will liaise with Oakdale if needed.

If your GP has declined Shared Care, you should contact Oakdale directly regarding any side effects.

We will contact you within 24 hours (Monday to Friday) to assess and advise you accordingly. Please note: there is no duty nurse cover on Saturdays or Sundays, so during this time it will take longer than 24 hours for us to contact you.

In case of serious or urgent side effects, always seek immediate medical attention and do not wait for a response from your GP or Oakdale (call 999 or attend A&E).

What if I change GP or move to a new area in England?

If you move to a different area or register with a new GP practice, your existing Shared Care Agreement will no longer be valid. Your new GP may choose not to accept Shared Care, even if your previous GP did.

You will need to inform Oakdale as soon as possible if you change your GP or home address, so we can ensure continuity of care and begin the Shared Care process with your new GP if appropriate.

Can I switch providers?

If you choose another provider for titration, Oakdale cannot later take over your prescribing or monitoring. Oakdale can only provide specialist care to people who complete the whole titration process with Oakdale.

Can I have a copy of the Shared Care agreement?

Yes.

Once you have been prescribed your medication and would like a copy of your shared care agreement, please email the team on adhdmedication.admin@oakdalecentre.org.

