



How can I be confident that a non-medical prescriber can safely prescribe for my child?

Nurses with prescribing qualifications have to adhere to the Standards of Proficiency for Nurse and Midwife Prescribers.

They have a duty to remain competent by keeping their knowledge and skills up to date. Forget Me Not, as an employer, also has a responsibility to ensure that non-medical prescribers undertake the relevant training and development, so that their knowledge and skills remain up to date.

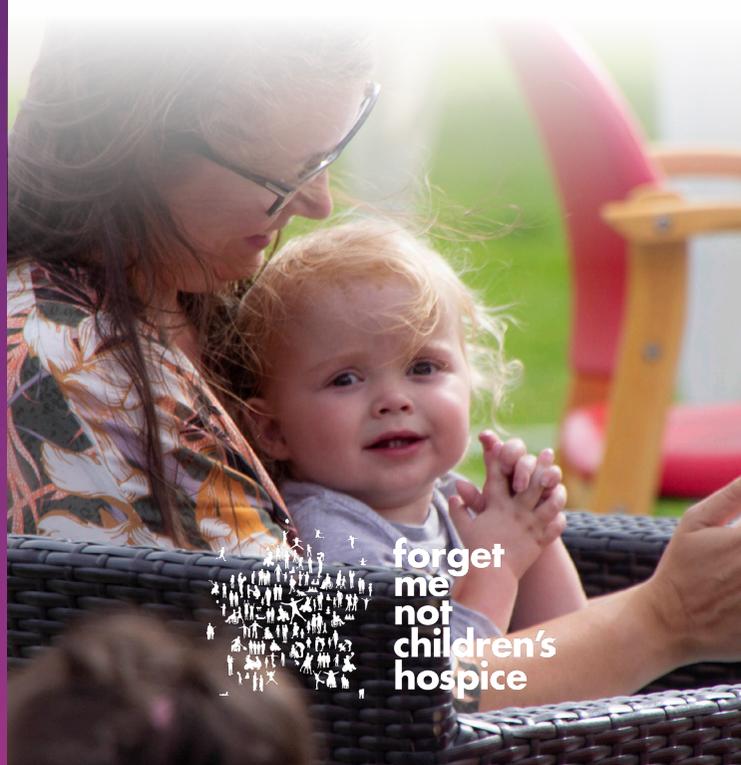
A non-medical prescriber should not prescribe for your child if they feel they are not competent to do so. This may be because your child's condition is outside their area of expertise or because they do not feel that they have the necessary skills or experience to recommend a change in your child's medicines. In such instances, they will refer you to a more experienced prescriber.

Where do I go if I have any questions or concerns about a non-medical prescriber?

Initially, you should raise your concerns with the prescriber concerned. If you feel unable to do this, you should contact a member of the Senior Management Team on the details below.

01484 411 042
care@forgetmenotchild.co.uk

Registered Charity No. 1110457
www.forgetmenotchild.co.uk



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What to expect from a non-medical prescriber

Information for families



What is non-medical prescribing?

Since 2006, some registered nurses have been allowed to prescribe medicines that were previously only prescribed by doctors. Non-medical prescribing has been introduced to improve access to treatment – that is, making it easier for your child to get the medicines they need.

Only registered nurses that have been trained to prescribe will be allowed to do so, and they can only prescribe medicines that are within their area of expertise. The training required is in addition to their main qualification. To enable them to prescribe safely, they must also undergo assessments and examinations regarding, for example, side effects, dosages, and the legal and ethical aspects of prescribing medicines.

Will there be any difference between a doctor prescribing the medicine or a non-medical prescriber?

No. You can expect the non-medical prescriber to go through the same procedure and ask the same questions as a doctor would.

How can I check if my nurse is a prescriber?

The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) keeps a register of all nurses who are qualified to prescribe. To search for a particular nurse, you will need to know their full name or their membership (PIN) number. If you have this information, you can either telephone **020 7333 9333** or search the register yourself at **www.nmc-uk.org**



What can I expect from a non-medical prescriber?

Prescribing decisions will be discussed with you or the child's main carer. Non-medical prescribers will ensure that your child's doctor is aware of any medicines they have prescribed for your child. We routinely contact your child's consultant and GP after any new medicines are prescribed, or if we change any existing prescriptions.

Sometimes prescribing decisions are made jointly between the non-medical prescriber and doctors after consultation with you. In these circumstances your child will usually be followed up by the non-medical prescriber who will review your child's symptoms and if necessary change the medicine, dosage, timing or frequency of the drug as appropriate. The non-medical prescriber may refer you back to the doctor if either they or you feel that it is appropriate.