Getting more information

Ask your carer or some one who supports you for help if you need it.





If you are worried or have any questions about your medication you can talk to your doctor or consultant.





Information about

Unlicensed and

Off Label Medication



Note for staff/carers:

The information in this leaflet should always be discussed with the service user and it should not be provided without support.

This leaflet is available in other languages or formats









For more information see www.cwp.nhs.uk.

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The information in this leaflet was valid at the date of production August 2016 and is due for review in August 2018
Leaflet code: E-UOLM-10-399

What does unlicensed mean?

Unlicensed means that there is no license to use the medication in the UK.

It is still legal to use the medication.

This means that the law says that it is OK.

What does off label mean?

Off label means that the medication has a license but it is being used in a different way or for a different health problem.

One example is when a tablet is crushed and given as a powder.

Sometimes we do this as it is the best medication for the health problem.



How do I take unlicensed or off label medications?

Your doctor will talk to you about how much medication you need to take.

Your doctor will talk to you about how to take your medication.

What is good about unlicensed and off-label medication?

Your doctor feels the medication is the best one for your health problem.

The medication has been tested and is safe for you to use.



Your doctor is responsible for prescribing the medication.

Your doctor will only use the medication if they think it will help you feel better.

You will get a leaflet to tell you about your medication.





What is not good about unlicensed and off label medication?

The company who make the medication do not have a license to use it for your health problem.



But there might be no other licensed medication to treat the health problem that you have.

And it is safe for you to use the medication.