

**Reference Number:** FOI202425/304  
**From:** Private Individual  
**Date:** 16 October 2024  
**Subject:** Dispensing and Prescribing Practices

Freedom of Information Request – Dispensing and Prescribing Practices in ED, Outpatient Clinics, and In-Patient Discharges

- Q1** Emergency Departments (ED):
- a. Are Take-Home (TTO) medications dispensed directly to patients from the ED?  
Yes, always.  
Yes, but only during certain hours (e.g., out-of-hours).  
No, a prescription is issued for collection at a pharmacy.  
Hybrid model: Medications are dispensed during certain hours, and a prescription is issued at other times.
- A1** Information not held - Liverpool Heart and Chest Hospital is a specialist adult cardiothoracic centre and does not have an Emergency Department.
- Q2** Outpatient Clinics:
- a. Are medications dispensed directly to patients in outpatient clinics?
    - Yes, always.
    - Yes, but only during certain hours.
    - No, a prescription is issued for collection at a pharmacy.
    - Hybrid model: Medications are dispensed during certain hours, and a prescription is issued at other times.
  - b. If prescriptions are issued, can these prescriptions be fulfilled at any pharmacy?
    - Yes, the prescriptions can be taken to any pharmacy.
    - No, the prescriptions are restricted to the hospital pharmacy.
- A2** Hospital only prescriptions are issued between 8.45 - 5pm if out of hours an FP10 prescription is issued to be taken to any Pharmacy.
- Q3** In-Patients Being Discharged:
- a. For in-patients being discharged, are TTO medications dispensed directly from the hospital pharmacy, or is a prescription given?
    - Medications are always dispensed directly.
    - A prescription is given for the patient to collect the medications from a pharmacy.
    - Hybrid model: Some medications are dispensed directly, while others are prescribed for collection.
- A3** TTO medications are dispensed directly from the Hospital Pharmacy