

SCRIPT APPOINTMENTS

Bluff Road Medical Centre Patients will be asked by our reception staff to read this document online **before** your script appointment to ensure that it is appropriately booked. These conditions were created to ensure good medical practice. If there are any uncertainties, we encourage you to discuss them with your usual GP.

What are script appointments?

Scripts appointments are face-to-face brief appointments created to accommodate for exceptions, when a standard GP appointment may not be necessary. However, to avoid inappropriate prescribing, they are only to be used under certain conditions and not intended to replace a standard consultation with your usual doctor.

It may be appropriate to book a script appointment if:

- It has been less than 4 months since your last consultation with your usual doctor
- You require a referral to a specialist that you see annually
- You require ongoing regular medication (maximum of 3 per visit) NOT listed below

Medications inappropriate for script appointments include:

- Blood Pressure medications
- Hormonal medications including the Contraceptive Pill
- EpiPen or Asthma medications
- Strong Pain or other Addictive Medications

Situations inappropriate for script appointments include:

- Referrals to specialists for the first time
- Referrals that are not annual e.g. Colonoscopy
- When you need to discuss medication efficacy, side effects or discontinuation
- Asthma Action or Anaphylaxis / Allergy Plans

Why can't I have more repeats on my scripts?

Regular long-term medications are dispensed monthly, usually for a maximum of 6 months. It is recommended to then arrange a standard consultation with your usual doctor to check the need to continue, stop or change your medication. This provides us an opportunity to review other health issues, plan for the subsequent 6 months and discuss preventive health strategies. It may also include a discussion of results, ordering of pathology or imaging tests, specialist referrals, medication review or relevant examination.

Planning Ahead.

It is important to book your review appointment with us for further scripts, soon after your pharmacist has dispensed your last repeat prescription. It is **strongly encouraged** for you to see your **usual** doctor to ensure continuity of care and to minimize errors.

Please understand that our reception staff are not health professionals, and as such are not authorized to book script appointments outside of these guidelines.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, Bluff Road Medical Centre management.