

Dear Patient,

### **Regarding your requests for Repeat Prescriptions**

Prescribing your medications is not as simple and routine as you imagine. Your medications are only supplied by prescription because of the very real danger that they may cause you serious harm if incorrectly supplied. Your GP faces grave medicolegal consequences if he or she gets your medications wrong.

You may think all it takes is a click of a mouse button to produce your prescription however every time your GP prints a prescription they must consider and defend whether –

- Is this specific drug still required?
- Can the dosage be lowered?
- Have any new symptoms developed that require diagnostic investigation? (for example What if you have been losing/gaining weight recently. Or what if your condition/symptom has worsened and a different health problem is responsible?)
- Are you experiencing side-effects? (Maybe ones you are not aware of that your medications are causing – when was the last time your GP reviewed your general health, weight, blood pressure etc?)
- Could there be adverse interactions between your prescription medications or other over-the-counter medications or even dietary supplements.
- Are there other treatments options or lifestyle choices you could be prepared to consider now?

So when we ask you to stop in for a brief visit, it's not because we are drumming up business but we are trying to keep you well and this takes, as explained above, a considerable amount of your GP's time.

You may therefore either

- 1) Make an online request via link on our website

Or

- 2) Speak to our reception team regarding booking an appropriate consultation time with your Doctor

*Thank you for your understanding.*