

MEDICATION SAFETY

St Luke's Care is committed to improving quality control around administering medicines to promote optimal patient outcomes while in hospital. We are continually monitoring our processes and implementing strategies to reduce the occurrence of medication incidents.

Medicine safety requires that you get the right medicine and the correct dose at the right times. During your hospital stay, we follow many steps to make sure this happens.

What we do to keep you safe

On admission, our staff will ask you about the medicines you take. Please tell us if you are using any of the following:

- Prescription medications (pills, liquids, creams, eye drops, puffers)
- Over-the-counter medications (pills, liquids, creams, eye drops, inhalers)
- 💠 Natural therapies and herbal remedies
- 💠 Vitamins.

We will communicate with you regularly throughout your stay about the medications you are taking, and on leaving the hospital, you will be provided with a list of prescribed medicines.

What you can do to help us keep you safe

- Bring all your medicines, or an up-to-date list of medicines, to the hospital and show these to staff on admission.
- Inform staff if you have allergies or bad reactions to medicines.
- Be informed about the medicines you are taking, what they are for and their side effects.
- Ask your healthcare professional about the medicine you are given; what they are, what they do, what they look like, when they are given, and what side effects they might have. Ensure you have a list of these medicines with information about each before you go home.
- If you do not recognise a medicine, check that it is for you and ensure you know why you are taking it.

Ensure you understand what foods, drinks, and other medicines to avoid when taking new medication.