

When there is a supply issue with your usual liquid medicine (adults & children)

Department of Pharmacy

Information for Patients

Last reviewed: November 2025

Next review: November 2028

Leaflet number: 1233 Version: 2

What happens when there is a problem with supply?

Your hospital doctor is treating you or your child with a liquid medicine.

Your pharmacy may be finding it difficult to get hold of the usual strength of your liquid medicine. This might mean that your doctor or pharmacy has to give you a different strength of liquid medicine which is weaker or stronger than your last supply.

If this happens, you will need to swallow a different amount of this liquid to get the same dose as before. Your pharmacy will work out how much liquid medicine you need to take to get the same dose as before. They will print this onto the pharmacy label on the new medicine bottle.

If your liquid medicine is not available in any strength, we may need to give you tablets. You can crush and mix this with some water or food. Your pharmacy will add instructions to the printed label.

What do I need to do?

Each time you collect your medicine, make sure that you read the pharmacy label on the medicine to check how much to swallow.

The amount of medicine that you will need to measure using the spoon or purple syringe will be written on the pharmacy label attached to the medicine. **If this is different to your last supply and/ or you are not sure, please ask your pharmacist to explain it to you.**

Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk
or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice

Visit www.uhleicester.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals
To give feedback about this information sheet, contact uhl-tr.informationforpatientsmailbox@nhs.net

