

Responsibilities: The Hospital vs. Your GP Surgery

Under the NHS Standard Contract, responsibilities are clearly divided between your hospital specialist team and your GP surgery:

Area	Hospital Specialist Team Responsibility	GP Surgery Responsibility
Appointment Waiting Lists	Manages their own waiting lists, determines clinical triage priority, and schedules clinics.	Does not have access to hospital appointment queues or cancellation lists. Informs the hospital of any deteriorating in condition if an expedited appointment is required
Hospital Tests & Scans	Responsible for triaging, booking, checking, and explaining results of any blood tests, X-rays, MRI/CT scans, or biopsies that their specialist doctors order.	Cannot view hospital internal test backlogs. Please do not call the GP for results ordered in secondary care outpatient clinics.
Prescriptions & Medications	Must supply at least a 7-day supply of any medication that is required to start immediately. Must supply any medication that is on the local formulary as Hospital only.	Will continue your regular repeat prescriptions once the official clinic letter has been reviewed.
Fit Notes / Sick Notes (MED3)	Must issue fit notes covering your hospital admission, post-operative recovery, and specialty follow-up periods.	Issues sick notes only for general illness managed predominantly in primary care.
Follow-Up Appointments	Arranges all follow-up visits, specialist multidisciplinary reviews, or onward referrals to other hospital departments directly.	Does not re-refer you for issues that are part of an ongoing open hospital care pathway.