

## Medicines derived from animal products



*Pharmacy*

patientinformation

## Bring your medicines when you come into hospital

Prescription medicines

Medicines you have bought

Alternative & herbal medicines

Inhalers



Hearing about your experience of our services is very important as it means we can pass compliments on to our staff and make improvements where necessary. Tell us what you think by emailing us at: [yourexperience@rothgen.nhs.uk](mailto:yourexperience@rothgen.nhs.uk)

Slovak

Ak vy alebo niekto koho poznáte potrebujete pomoc pri pochopení alebo čítaní tohto dokumentu, prosím kontaktujte nás na vyššie uvedenom čísle alebo nám pošlite e-mail.

Slovensky

Kurdish Sorani

كوڤدی سوڤانی  
ناگهه تۆ یان كهسنگ كه تۆ دهبناسی پێویستی بهیارمانی ههیهت یۆ نهوهی لهم بهانگهنامه به تێیگات یان بیخوینتتهوه، تکلایه پهپوهندیمان پێوه بکه لهسههه نهو ژمارهیهی سهروههدها یان بهو نیمهیه.

عربی

Arabic

إذا كنت أنت أو أي شخص تعرفه بحاجة إلى مساعدة لفهم أو قراءة هذه الوثيقة، الرجاء الاتصال على الرقم اعلاه، أو مراسلتنا عبر البريد الإلكتروني

Urdu

اردو

اگر آپ یا آپ کے جاننے والے کسی شخص کو اس دستاویز کو سمجھنے یا پڑھنے کیلئے مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا نمبر پر ہم سے رابطہ کریں یا ہمیں ای میل کریں۔

Farsi

فارسی

اگر جناب عالی یا شخص دیگری که شما اورا می شناسید برای خواندن یا فهمیدن این مدارک نیاز به کمک دارد لطفاً با ما بوسیله شماره بالا یا ایمیل تماس حاصل فرمایید.

If you require this document in another language, large print, braille, audio or easyread format, please ask our healthcare providers\*

### \*Note to healthcare providers:

Translated / easyread healthcare information can be sourced via the **Easyread websites** listed at the back of this leaflet or via contacting our translation service which can be accessed through InSite.

## Medicines derived from animal products

### Which medicines contain animal products?

Numerous medicines contain ingredients derived from animals, usually pigs or cows. These include:

- Heparin type medicines to prevent or treat blood clots
- Some Insulins
- Pancreatic enzyme supplements
- MMR vax PRO<sup>®</sup>  
(a type of Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine)
- Treatments to help the lungs of pre-term babies develop
- Gelatin capsules

This may have implications for some patients e.g. Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, Sikhs, vegetarians and vegans.

## Medicines derived from animal products

### **My beliefs do not allow me to take medicines that come from animals.**

We understand you may have concerns in accepting treatment with one of these products.

#### *For example:*

As a general rule Muslims are not allowed any form of pork but when there is no suitable alternative and there is a risk of health deterioration Islamic law does allow medicines derived from pigs. One of the principles of Islamic law states that, "Necessities overrule prohibitions".

The Muslim Council of Britain encourages Muslim patients who wish to discuss this matter to seek advice from their local Muslim chaplain (imam).

Pork is strictly forbidden in the diet in Judaism but food and medicines not taken orally are not considered 'eating'. Thus there are no restrictions regarding injections. In the ill patient, porcine derived oral medication is allowed if it's not considered 'edible'. When in doubt consult a rabbi.

Vegetarians and vegans are likely to have concerns about animal-derived medicines.

*You may wish to discuss these issues with your doctor, pharmacist or your religious leader if appropriate.*

### **Are there any alternatives?**

Other medicines may be available. In some cases other medicines are available but they may not be as effective, or may not be suitable for you, or may have more side effects. In other cases there aren't any alternatives.

### What are the alternatives?

- **Heparin type medicines:** In some cases you can have a treatment that does not come from pigs. In other cases there may be an alternative but it may not be suitable for you, or as effective, or it may have more side effects. In other situations there is no alternative. Discuss with your doctor or nurse.
- **Insulin:** Most people are treated with human insulin. If you change from animal insulin the dose may need to change and you may need to check your blood sugar more often.
- **Medicines to treat diseases of the pancreas:** There are no alternative treatments.
- **MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine:** A vaccine that doesn't have any ingredients obtained from pigs is available. Ask your doctor about this option.
- **Treatments to help the lungs of pre-term babies develop:** There are only two drugs available. One comes from pigs and the other from cows.
- **Gelatin capsules:** Ask the pharmacist if there is a different form of your medicine such as syrup. If not we may be able to give you a similar medicine with the same effects.

### Where can I find out more information?

If you are concerned about any of your medicines, please speak to your nurse, midwife or doctor who can arrange for you to discuss this with a pharmacist or religious leader.

## How to contact us

**The Medicines  
Information Helpline**  
Telephone 01709 424337

**Switchboard**  
Telephone 01709 820000

**Useful contact numbers**  
**If it's not an emergency,  
please consider using a  
Pharmacy or call NHS 111  
before going to A&E.**

### **NHS 111 Service**

Telephone 111

### **Health Info**

Telephone 01709 427190

### **Stop Smoking Service**

Telephone 01709 422444

### **A&E**

Telephone 01709 424455

**For GP out of hours,  
contact your surgery**

## Useful websites

[www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk](http://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk)

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

[www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk)

## Easyread websites

[www.easyhealth.org.uk](http://www.easyhealth.org.uk)

[www.friendlyresources.org.uk](http://www.friendlyresources.org.uk)

[www.easy-read-online.co.uk](http://www.easy-read-online.co.uk)

## We value your comments

If you have any comments or concerns about the services we have provided please let us know, or alternatively you can contact the Patient Experience Team.

### **Patient Experience Team**

The Oldfield Centre  
The Rotherham NHS  
Foundation Trust  
Rotherham Hospital  
Moorgate Road  
Rotherham  
S60 2UD

Telephone: 01709 424461

Monday to Friday

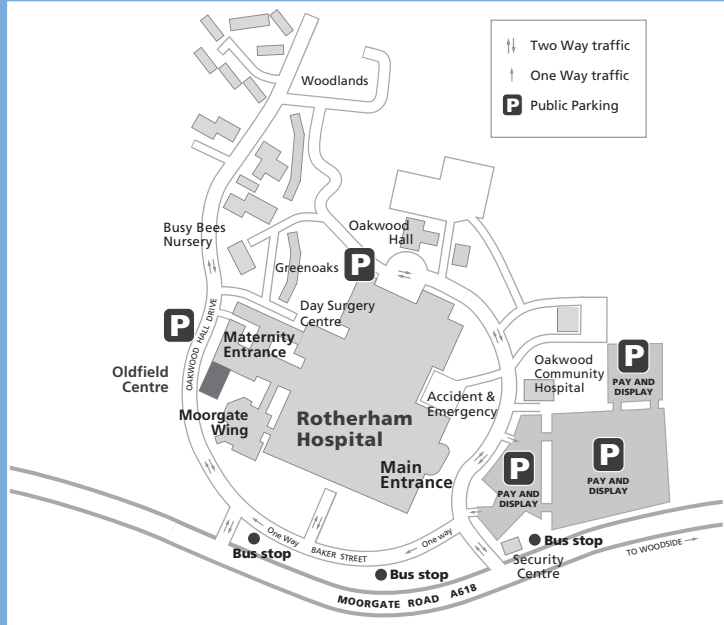
9.00am until 4.00pm

Email: [yourexperience@rothgen.nhs.uk](mailto:yourexperience@rothgen.nhs.uk)

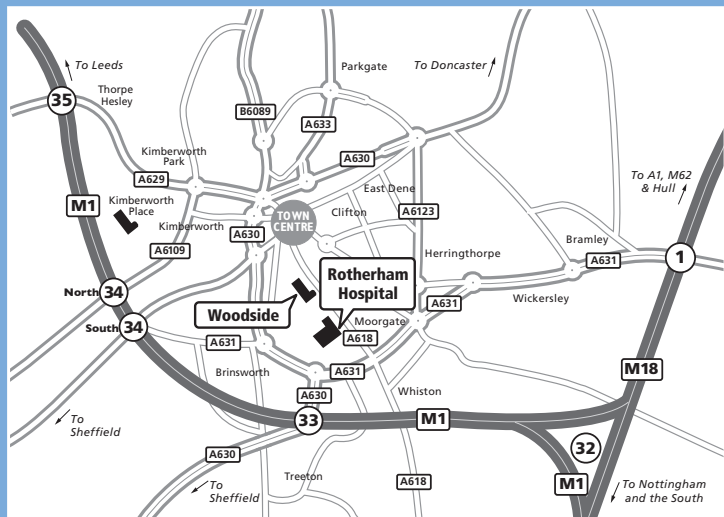
Adapted from a document produced by the Mid-Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust. Written by Mr Stephen Poku (Consultant Obs & Gynae) 01709 424190 Christina Dezelak (Medicines Information Pharmacist) 01709 424126 and Mahmood Hussain (Equality & Diversity Advisor) 01709 427686 November 2010. Revised May 2012, December 2015. Revision due December 2017. Version:3.0. ©The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust 2015. All rights reserved.

# How to find us

## Hospital site plan



## Rotherham main routes





Sustainable Forests / Low chlorine

LS 623 12/15 V3 Jones & Brooks



The Rotherham **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

**Rotherham Hospital**  
Moorgate Road  
Rotherham  
S60 2UD

Telephone 01709 820000  
[www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk](http://www.therotherhamft.nhs.uk)

