

## Safe Administration of Medications

### The Red Apron Initiative

Unless it is essential, please do not interrupt a nurse wearing a Red Apron as they are administering medications.



## Contact details for:

### The National Rehabilitation Hospital

**Telephone:** (01) 235 5000



### **National Rehabilitation Hospital**

Rochestown Avenue, Dún Laoghaire,  
Co. Dublin, A96 RPN4

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[www.nrh.ie](http://www.nrh.ie)



An tOspidéal Náisiunta Athshlánúchain

## Medications following Acquired Brain Injury



A guide to medication safety  
while you are an Inpatient, on  
weekend leave or being discharged



The [National Rehabilitation Hospital](http://www.nrh.ie) is accredited by CARF (Commission for accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) for a range of services, confirming they meet recognized international standards

## On Admission

Bring all your medications with you to the NRH and give them to nursing staff on your arrival.

## During your Stay

Pharmacy supplies all your medicines while you are an Inpatient. Please be on the unit at drug administration times.

Don't take over-the-counter medications during your stay at the NRH. The Pharmacists will answer any questions you have about medicines.

## On Discharge

The Pharmacist can advise you on your medicines during your stay, or prior to discharge, and give you information leaflets. Pharmacy supply weekend leave medications.

The Nurse will ask how many days you are going home for - please ensure you have enough medicines for your weekend leave and don't forget to take them home with you. Give any unused medicines to the Nurse on your return to the NRH.

The Pharmacists will give a three-day supply of medicines on discharge so you have time to go to the community pharmacy.

If you are considering the use of herbal or other remedies following brain injury, always discuss this first with your doctor.

## Safe Administration of Medications

We want to ensure safety when nurses are administering medications at the time of the drug round on the unit.

Our aim is to reduce the volume of interruptions and distractions nurses experience during the drug round.

This helps ensure staff can devote their full attention to administering medication – a task which requires a high level of concentration.



On each Unit, nurses wear a red apron to alert staff and patients to the fact that they are administering medications.

Unless it is essential, please do not interrupt a nurse wearing a red apron like that shown in the photograph below.



Instead, please refer any questions or concerns you may have to another nurse who is not administering medications.