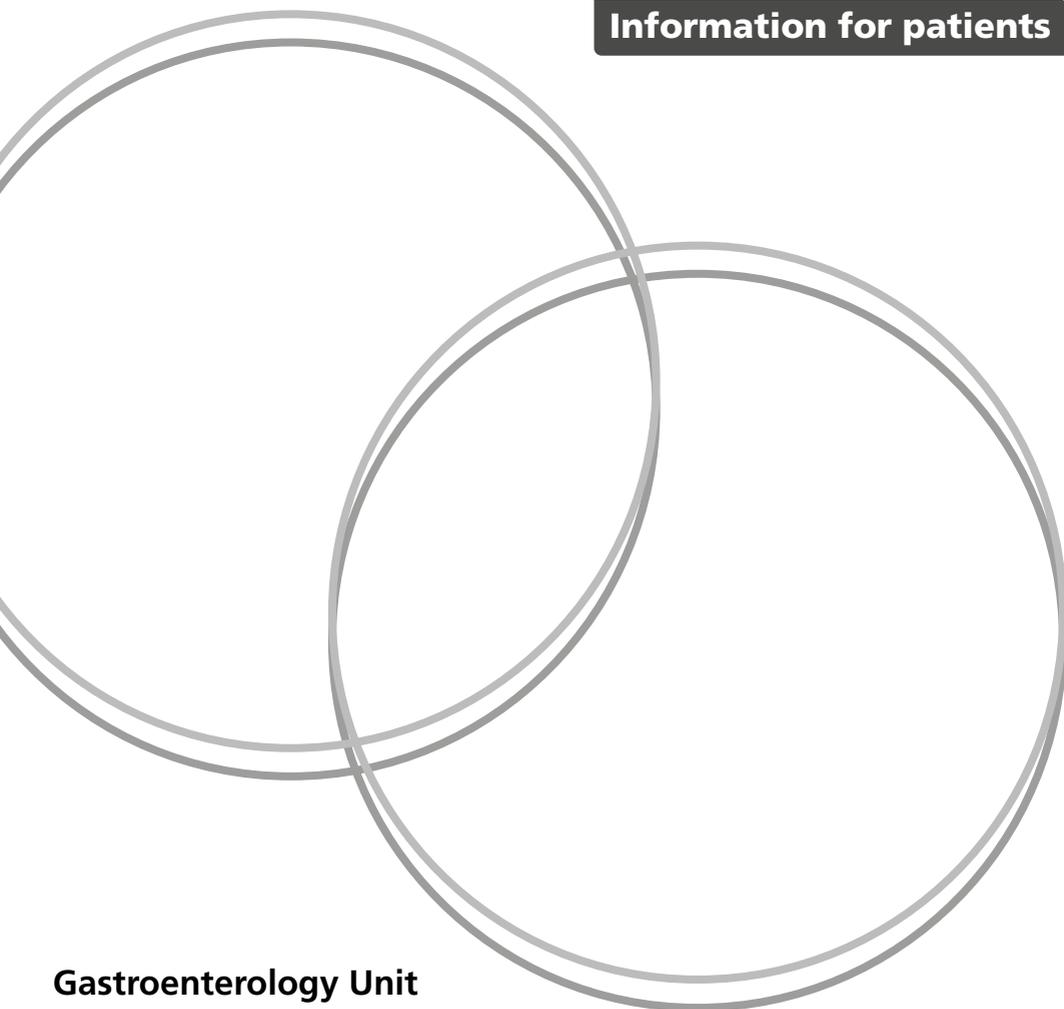


Home delivery of Adalimumab

(Humira®, Imraldi®, Amgevita®,
Hulio®, Hyrimoz®, Idacio)

Information for patients



As part of our commitment to improve services to patients, the Pharmacy Department and Gastroenterology are offering you the option of having your **adalimumab** injections delivered to your home or other nominated address. If you take up this option, your prescription will be dispensed by a private pharmaceutical company called Sciensus. The medication will then be delivered to your nominated address free of charge. You will be visited at home by a nurse provided by Sciensus to train you in using the injections if required.

If you do not wish to use the home delivery service or would prefer training on how to use the injections by a specialist IBD nurse at the hospital, please let us know.

Why home delivery?

The aim of this partnership is to provide a more streamlined dispensing service for patients whilst allowing our pharmacists more time to spend working with the rest of your clinical team. Sciensus has provided dispensing services to the NHS for many years and we believe this service will enable us to increase the quality of care we can give to patients. We hope that you will find it more convenient too.

Delivery of medicines by an external provider will also save money as hospitals have to pay higher costs for the medicines than community or private companies such as Sciensus. The savings made will enable us to improve services to the Gastroenterology Unit.

Due to adalimumab being a specialist medicine it can only be prescribed by the hospital and not by your GP.

Who is Sciensus?

Sciensus is a pharmaceutical company specializing in the delivery of patients' medicines. The pharmacy is registered with and inspected by the Royal Pharmaceutical Council. Since the company was founded, Sciensus has safely delivered thousands of parcels of medicines to patients throughout the UK.

Registration and consent forms

To enable us to provide you with the best service, we will need to provide Sciensus with some contact details for you. We will complete a registration and consent form before the first prescription is written. Dispensing records will be held on a computerised patient management system and comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act. Sciensus staff are governed by the same rules about confidentiality as NHS staff. Sciensus fully understand and are sensitive to all issues surrounding the confidentiality of information about you and your medicines.

How does the service work?

Once the decision has been made to start treatment with adalimumab and you have consented to home delivery and nurse-led injection training, a Gastroenterology pharmacist will complete and send off the registration forms. They will send off a prescription for the first four doses of adalimumab (known as the induction doses) to Sciensus for dispensing.

Within two to three weeks you should be contacted by Sciensus to agree a convenient delivery date for the medication to be delivered to your nominated address. Upon receipt you should then receive a call from a nurse from Sciensus to arrange a suitable date for them to visit to start your treatment and train you in using the injections yourself.

You will be reviewed in clinic 4 to 6 weeks after starting treatment to assess response to the medication. A decision will be made to continue or stop treatment at this stage.

If you are to continue, your gastroenterologist will then ask one of the gastroenterology pharmacists to complete and send off a prescription for home delivery of further supplies of medication to be delivered to you on a regular basis.

If you receive the first dose on the ward or in the gastroenterology daycase unit you will be trained to self administer the injections by a specialist gastroenterology nurse. You will be provided with the second dose to take home and further doses will be supplied via the home delivery company after we have registered you. You have the option to receive further nurse training at home.

Your medication will be packed securely in plain packaging and delivered via an unmarked refrigerated van to your nominated delivery address.

You will be provided with sharps bins to dispose of your adalimumab pens safely at every delivery. Full bins will be taken away in exchange at the time of delivery.

How do we make sure you receive your medicines?

Sciensus will contact you to arrange the first delivery date of your injections. Following this they will have a record of when the next delivery is due and will forward a request for a new prescription to the gastroenterology pharmacist at the hospital. The pharmacist will liaise with the medical and nursing teams to confirm treatment is continuing and verify the dose and then complete and send off the prescription so it can be dispensed in time for the next dose. You will generally receive 2 months' worth of medication at a time. This will be either 4 pens if your dose is 40mg on alternate weeks or 8 pens if your dose is 40mg weekly.

Sciensus will contact you to arrange a convenient delivery slot. If you have not heard from them and are expecting a delivery then you should contact Customer Services in the first instance and then the gastroenterology pharmacy team (contact details below).

Treatment duration is usually for one year initially and then reviewed. It is very important that you attend clinic appointments and have regular blood tests while taking adalimumab otherwise we may have to consider stopping treatment.

Please note that you should nominate an address for delivery where there will be someone available to sign for the receipt of your adalimumab. This could be your home, the home of a relative or friend or your place of work. You must let us know if your delivery address or contact details change.

If for any reason you need to cancel and rearrange your scheduled delivery e.g. holiday, you must contact Sciensus Customer Services as soon as possible.

What happens if there is no one available to sign for the item?

If you are not in to receive the delivery, the driver will contact Sciensus and ask them to try and contact you by telephone on the numbers you have provided at registration e.g. home, mobile, and work numbers. If they are still unable to contact you, the medication will be returned to their depot. Sciensus will continue to try and contact you to arrange another delivery time. No medication will be left on the doorstep.

Storage

On receipt you must put your adalimumab in the fridge (2°C to 8°C) as soon as possible.

Travel

A single adalimumab pen/syringe may be stored at temperatures up to a maximum of 25°C for a period of up to 14 - 28 days depending on the brand of adalimumab. Please check the packaging of your medicine for this information or contact the gastroenterology pharmacist at the hospital.

Adalimumab must be protected from light, and discarded if not used within the recommended period. We recommend however that even for short trips you transport adalimumab in a cool bag containing ice packs, and ensure there is a fridge at your destination to store them.

Sciensus can provide customs forms if required for overseas trips.

If you are planning a trip which is longer than 3 months in duration outside the UK you **must discuss this with your gastroenterologist and pharmacist at the hospital as soon as possible.**

If I have a question about my medicines, who should I contact?

If you have any questions about how to take your medicines or about interactions or side effects, you should contact:

An **IBD Nurse specialist** via the IBD advice line on **01865 228 772**

Or

A **gastroenterology pharmacist** on **01865 221 523** or
email **ibd.homecare@nhs.net**

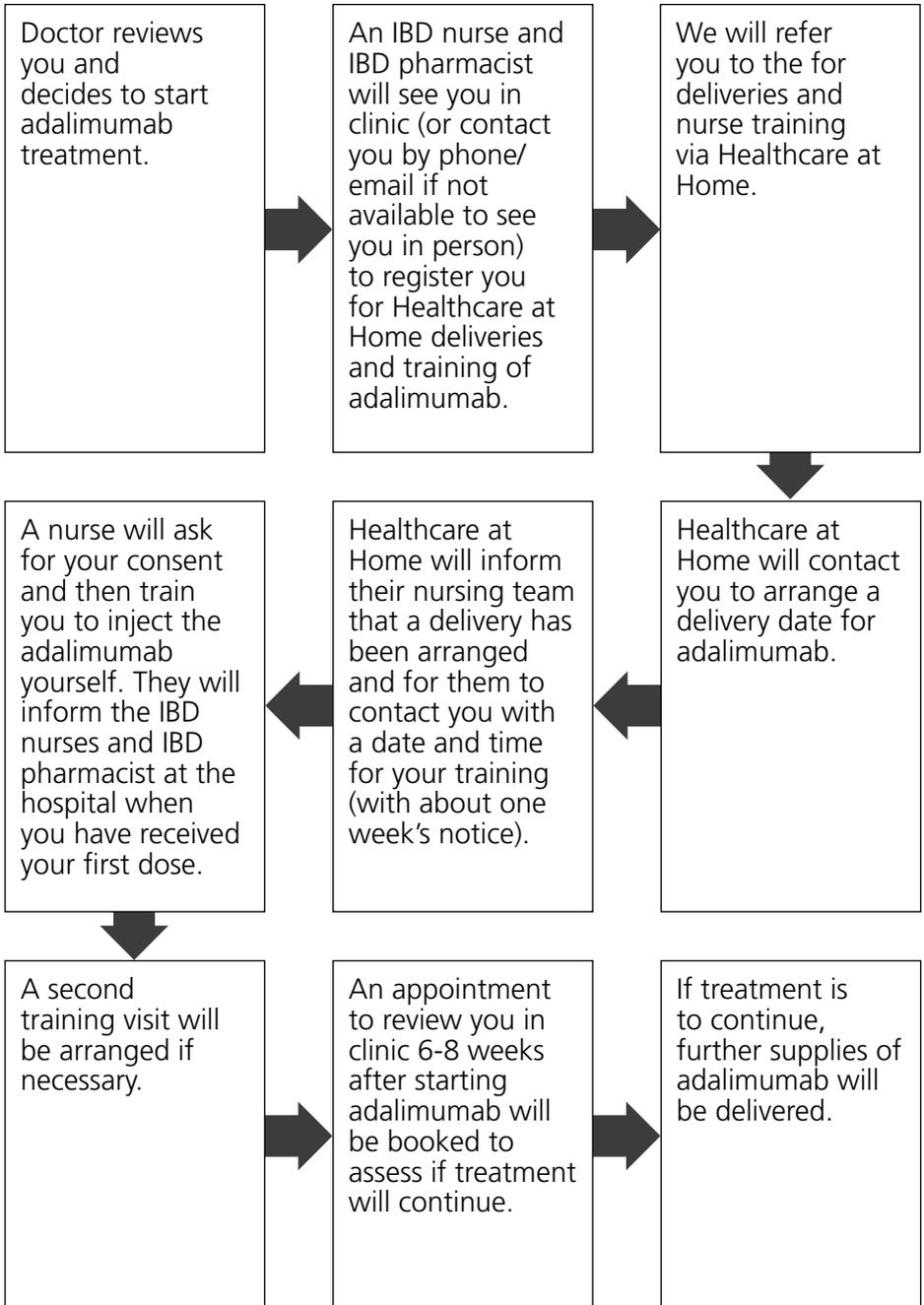
Or

A **doctor on the Gastroenterology Ward** on **01865 221 185**.

If you have any questions relating to the delivery of your medication or organising nurse training at home please contact:

Sciensus customer services on **0333 103 9699** or
email: **hah.enquiries@hah.co.uk**

Adalimumab training and deliveries



Any questions?

Please contact **The Gastroenterology Pharmacy Team** if you have not heard about deliveries within 2 weeks of discussing treatment with the them or the IBD nurse specialist.

If they are unable to organise a suitable date for deliveries and/or nurse training at home or you have any queries about your ongoing treatment please contact the **IBD advice line** on **01865 228 754**.

Sciensus will provide information about schedules, deliveries etc. Please contact the Gastroenterology Pharmacy Team if there are any problems.

Clinical questions (e.g. symptoms, side effects) will be referred back to the IBD Team at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

Author: Sarah Cripps, Gastroenterology Pharmacist, October 2007
Updated Version 2, April 2010, Version 3, July 2012, Version 4 August 2014
Version 5, Lloyd Thomas & Sarah Cripps, Gastroenterology Pharmacists, April 2018
Verified by Professor SPL Travis Consultant Gastroenterologist
Guidance received from Divisional Patient Information Coordinator



June 20201
Review: June 2024
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
www.ouh.nhs.uk/information

Making a difference across our hospitals

charity@ouh.nhs.uk | 01865 743 444 | hospitalcharity.co.uk

OXFORD HOSPITALS CHARITY (REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1175809)

