

## **New Medicine Service: helping you with your new medicine**

### **What this leaflet is for**

If you have been invited to use the New Medicine Service (NMS) or want to know more about it then this leaflet will give you the information you need.

### **What is the New Medicine Service?**

The New Medicine Service is a free NHS service, offered through your pharmacy (chemist), to help you understand your condition and get the most out of your new medicine.

### **Who is it for?**

The service is for people who have received their first prescription for a medicine to treat any of the following conditions:

- asthma
- lung conditions such as chronic bronchitis and emphysema
- type 2 diabetes
- high blood pressure
- conditions where you take a medicine to control the way your blood clots.

### **How will it help me?**

Between 30% and 50% of prescribed medicines are not taken as recommended. This means that a lot of medicines are wasted or are not as effective as they could be.

The service will:

- help you to find out more about the new medicine you are taking
- help to sort out any problems you are having with your new medicine
- give you a chance to ask questions about your medicine and discuss any concerns
- help to improve the effectiveness of your new medicine, for example, there may be an easier or better way to take it
- help you to make your own decisions about managing your condition
- help you to improve your health, which could lead to fewer GP and hospital visits.

The New Medicine Service will help provide better value for you and the NHS by making sure that your medicines are right for you.

### **How does the service work?**

When you are given your new medicine you will be asked if you want to sign up to the service, which will be provided in three parts. If you agree, you will need to sign a consent form to allow your pharmacist to share your information with other parts of the NHS (see below).

Step 1	Your pharmacist will give you information about your new medicine.
Step 2	You will be invited to a meeting with your pharmacist between 7 and 14 days after you first receive your medicine. You will be able to choose a time that suits you.  This is a confidential conversation and will be provided in a private area within the pharmacy or if you prefer, you could choose to have the discussion over the