

ADHD referrals Kirklees – updated May 2025

New referral pathway

All ADHD assessment referrals are now triaged by Manygates which is the local NHS ADHD service. This process has been agreed with ADHD services, the local medical committee (LMC), and Kirklees integrated Care Board (ICB).

If you are worried that you have ADHD you should complete an e-consult telling us more about your symptoms. We will then ask you to book an appointment to discuss your symptoms further; usually this will be with the Mental Health Practitioner. If it is felt to be appropriate a request will be made to Manygates' own triage clinic. You will be offered a 45 minute face to face appointment with a specialist in ADHD. This appointment is to ensure referrals meet diagnostic criteria before proceeding with a full assessment, and to help assess for alternative conditions that may explain your symptoms.

If the ADHD specialist deems it appropriate for you to have an assessment at this point you will be offered choice of going onto the Manygates waiting list, or to transfer to an alternative 'Right To Choose' provider.

The waiting list for a full assessment is currently around 2 years on the NHS ie Manygates. Please see the following link for the most up to date waiting time information:

<https://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/services/adhd-service/>

Right to Choose

If it is appropriate for you to go on to have a full ADHD assessment you have a right to choose an alternative, non-NHS, provider. These are private companies who are being paid to do NHS assessments. Commonly patients in Huddersfield choose Psychiatry UK or ADHD 360, but there are a number of other providers. Assessments by these companies are often not face to face and are shorter assessments compared to the assessments done by the NHS.

Shared Care Prescribing

Shared care prescribing is where the prescribing responsibilities are held jointly by your GP and your specialist. NHS Shared Care Agreements are formal documents outlining these responsibilities which have been approved by the LMC and are funded by the ICB. If you are seen by the NHS ADHD service we can prescribe your ADHD medications via Shared Care once your correct dosage is established.

We do not do Shared Care prescribing with any private or even NHS Right to Choose ADHD services. Some Right to Choose providers can continue your prescriptions on the NHS, some will not. If your provider will not do NHS prescriptions, then you will need to fund your prescriptions privately which can be very expensive. It is important to check before having an assessment as you will not be able to transfer back to NHS care.

Private referrals-

If you chose to self-fund a private ADHD assessment you will need to be prepared to self-fund prescriptions and ongoing treatment as we do not do Shared Care prescribing with private companies.

FAQs-

Why can't I be referred directly to a right to choose provider?

The local pathway has been agreed as above. GPs are no longer able to make direct Right to Choose referrals. The referral has to be clinically appropriate to allow you your Right to Choose so this needs to be assessed via the NHS pathway as the first step.

If I pay for a private assessment, can I go to the NHS service for medication?

No, Manygates will not accept private assessments nor allow you to bypass the queue to get medication more quickly. This would be against the NHS advice to keep private and NHS services separate, and disadvantages those who cannot afford to pay for an assessment.

Why don't you do shared care with private providers?

1. It is challenging for us to be assured of the quality and governance aspects of private clinics
2. These are specialist medications which need to be shared between General practice and specialists, and there is no guarantee of enduring specialist care within the private sector
3. Shared care arrangements require robust support and expertise, which are often not available when dealing with private providers
4. Shared care work with private providers is not funded and general practice does not currently have the capacity to meet this additional demand from the private sector

This practice is consistent with the guidance we have been provided and in line with other GP surgeries across Kirklees.

I am really struggling with my symptoms; can my referral be expedited ?

Manygates do prioritise some assessments based on clinical and social factors - they will do this as part of the initial assessment.

Can I have a second opinion if I am not happy with the triage outcome?

Yes, you have a right to appeal via Manygates if you do not feel the outcome is correct. This will then be looked at by a different clinician. Manygates use objective measures with good evidence base to do the initial triage assessment and are going to regularly review the new pathway.