

THE BUSH DOCTORS – SOCIAL PRESCRIBING

Referral and Exclusion Criteria

REFERRAL CRITERIA

- Adult patients (over 18)
- Consent to referral
- A person who has been identified as requiring a non-clinical service (frequent attender for non-medical needs
- Patient with manageable medical needs, physical and mental (that can be managed by Helpforce volunteers physically and mentally)
- Patient requiring self-care support, including those provided by community-based organisations
- Provision of relevant information to support referral such as: mobility issues (for example, if wheelchair or walking aid user), learning difficulty, dementia, sight loss, low level English.

INCLUSION CRITERIA

These are the kind of conditions that we think Helpforce Companions are well placed to support:

- Socially isolated, lonely
- Low level mental health diagnosis or perceived poor mental health
- Low level Dementia
- Low confidence/self esteem
- Support with reduced mobility
- Requires non-clinical self-care support in the community to improve physical and/or mental health

EXCLUSION CRITERIA

- Complex physical or mental health needs, more appropriate for referral to other agencies such as statutory Adult Social Care or community-based specialist organisations.

Things Helpforce Companions **cannot do**:

- Provide care in the home such as personal care, cleaning, or feeding.
- Handling money.
- Lifting heaving equipment, shopping, or other items.
- Long term support (beyond six weeks).
- Support if patient is diagnosed with an infectious disease, including COVID.

HELPHORCE COMPANIONS CAN SUPPORT PATIENTS WITH:

- ESCORTING [GP, Hospital, Welfare appointments, health and wellbeing activities in community hubs, shopping, social events to help build confidence.]
- COLLECTION & DELIVERY [Medication from pharmacies, samples from home needed by GP practice, one-off shopping for essential items.]
- WALKING COMPANION [up to six sessions to help with physical exercise, improve confidence with mobility.]
- ESCORTING [GP | Hospital | Welfare appointments, local health and wellbeing activities and events in community hubs.]
- GARDENING [Outdoors only.]
- TELEPHONE BEFRIENDING [Once a week, up to six weeks, after which it will be reviewed by the Link worker.]

CONTACTS:


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