

University Campus Doctors

When my son Joe started University, he registered at the Campus doctors and all his GP records were transferred there; he then became a temporary patient whenever he returned home and fell ill. I spoke with the campus doctors to explain about ED, Joe's allergies and his lack of temperature control, and was assured they would look after him. However, I did feel he thought I was a neurotic, over protective Mum!

The first time he fell ill the Doctor assessed him (after a 3 hour wait) and told him he 'just had a virus' and it would go in time! After 2 weeks of suffering he came home, I immediately took him to our doctors who, knowing Joe's history, put him on antibiotics – within 24 hours he was beginning to feel better and 3 days later was as fit as a fiddle.

As our doctors have cared for him since he was born and appreciate that sometimes Joe's symptoms don't manifest normally, they gave him a supply of anti-biotics to keep and use if and when needed. This basically meant that he didn't need to see the campus doctors and when he had a different illness he just came home and saw the doctors here. Our doctors felt it would be better if Joe transferred back to them which we did; meaning he would then be a temporary patient at the University.

Recently Joe was taken quite ill and went along to the campus doctors. He was told that as he was not registered with the doctors they would not see him! It transpired that he hadn't told them he was a temporary patient and needed to be seen as an emergency! I found another doctor local to Joe, but when I spoke with the doctor on the telephone I was told he would assess Joe and treat accordingly (fair enough), but then went on to tell me that ED was not a major problem and certainly wasn't life threatening!! Well, that left me with no confidence in him at all! I then so spoke to Joe's doctors here, who advised Joe to take the anti-biotics he had and to come home and see them as soon as he could; they confirmed he had a chest and ear infection!

I thought when Joe went to University he would be old enough to sort out most things in his life, especially a simple procedure such as going to the doctors – how wrong I was, not because he is incapable but because the system isn't simple. I feel that if doctors don't understand ED then they have no idea how to assess and treat individuals who have ED. For Joe I am so happy that we have wonderful doctors at home who understand him and ED.

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Supporting a normal lifestyle

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