

When you start treatment at a clinic—especially one moroccoworldnews.com prescribing unlicensed medicines like medical cannabis—knowing how often you’ll be reviewed and exactly who will be overseeing your care is crucial. This is not just about comfort; it’s about your safety and ensuring your treatment is monitored by qualified professionals within regulated frameworks.

In this post, we’ll walk you through practical steps to ask any clinic about **review frequency**, the **clinician role**, and their **follow-up plan**. We’ll also cover important points about regulation, authorized prescribers, specialist competence, and risks associated with unlicensed medicines.

Why Should You Care About Review Frequency and Clinician Role?

Regular reviews are essential to:

- Monitor the effectiveness of your treatment
- Track side effects or any complications
- Adjust medicines or doses if necessary
- Make sure treatment follows legal and ethical standards

Knowing who will see you tells you about their qualifications and expertise. It also helps you understand whether your care is multidisciplinary or if one clinician handles everything.

Start With This Question: “What is your Care Quality Commission (CQC) registration number?”

This is a vital first step. The Care Quality Commission (CQC) regulates health and social care in England. Clinics must register with the CQC and meet their standards. With a registration number, you can:

- Look up inspection reports
- Confirm if they provide treatment services relevant to you
- Check compliance history or any concerns

A clinic that hesitates to give this number is a red flag.

Ask: “How often will I be reviewed, and what does the follow-up plan involve?”

Don’t settle for vague answers like “regularly” or “as needed.” You want concrete details such as:

- Specific review intervals (weekly, monthly, every 3 months)
- Format of reviews—are they in-person, video calls, or telephone?
- Monitoring methods—blood tests, questionnaires, physical exams

A robust follow-up plan often includes scheduled appointments, clear criteria for treatment continuation, and contingency steps if problems arise.

Clarify “Who Will Be Reviewing Me?”—Focus on Clinician Role and Credentials

Ask for the names, qualifications, and roles of the staff who will assess you regularly. Key points include:

- **Are they General Practitioners (GPs) or specialists?** Verify their registration with the General Medical Council (GMC) Medical Register.
- **If they call themselves specialists, are they on the GMC Specialist Register?** This matters because specialist competence should match your condition (e.g., pain medicine, neurology, psychiatry).
- **Are they trained in the use of unlicensed medicines like medical cannabis?** Not every doctor has expertise here, and you should know their scope.

A clinic that avoids naming their clinicians or claiming “specialist doctors” without proof is suspicious.

Who Is Legally Allowed to Prescribe Your Medication?

Under UK law, certain medicines require prescriptions from qualified prescribers. For unlicensed medicines—including many cannabis-based products—extra caution is needed:

- Prescribers must be doctors or other approved healthcare professionals with legal prescribing rights.
- Their prescribing must be in line with GMC guidance and professional standards.
- If your treatment involves controlled substances, only doctors registered with the GMC and licensed can issue prescriptions.

Therefore, your review clinician should have the authority to prescribe and adjust medications, not just offer advice.

Understanding the Risks: Why Clinics Must Disclose Risks of Unlicensed Medicines

By law and professional guidelines, clinics must inform you about:

1. The licensed status of medicines prescribed (licensed vs unlicensed)
2. Known side effects and uncertainties
3. How often you should be monitored for adverse effects
4. What to do if problems occur

If a clinic glosses over risk disclosures or avoids explaining monitoring plans, it suggests possible gaps in safety practices.

Sample Questions To Ask Your Clinic

Topic Example Question Why It Matters CQC Registration “Can you provide your CQC registration number so I can check your inspection reports?” Ensures the clinic is regulated and inspected for safety/quality. Review Frequency “How often will I have follow-up appointments, and what will they include?” Sets clear expectations and ensures ongoing monitoring. Clinician Credentials “Which doctors or healthcare professionals will review me? Are they on the GMC Specialist Register?” Verifies relevant expertise and legal authorisation to treat you. Prescribing Authority “Who will prescribe my medication, and are they authorised under UK law to prescribe controlled substances?” Confirms legal compliance and proper medication management. Risk Disclosure “What risks are associated with this treatment, and how will you monitor for side effects?” Promotes informed consent and patient safety.

What to Do If the Clinic's Answers Are Vague or Evasive

Keep a written record of any non-specific or unclear responses. Here's a checklist:



- Did they give a CQC registration number? If not, consider reporting.
- Are review intervals clearly defined? Ambiguity means lack of proper monitoring.
- Did they name clinicians and provide their GMC registration or specialty information?
- Are risks and side effects of treatment openly discussed?
- Is the prescribing authority clear?

Clinics that avoid or obfuscate these questions may not meet professional standards or regulatory requirements. It might be safer to seek a more transparent provider.



Summary: What Every Patient Deserves Regarding Reviews and Oversight

Ask and confirm:

- **The clinic's CQC registration number** to ensure proper regulation
- **Specific review frequency** details — not vague terms
- **Names and qualifications of clinicians**, especially if they claim specialist status
- **Who will prescribe and oversee your treatment**, and their legal authority
- **Full disclosure of risks** and a clear plan for monitoring safety

Clear answers here are not negotiable—they are your right as a patient and key to safe, effective treatment.

Further Resources

- Care Quality Commission (CQC) – Check clinic registrations and inspections.
- General Medical Council (GMC) – Verify doctors' registration and specialist status.
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) – Guidance on prescribing and safety.