

## Will the pharmacist always be able to help me?

Your pharmacist is a highly trained healthcare professional who can provide expert, confidential advice on common health problems and the best medicines to treat them.

As part of this service they will be following set guidelines to ensure you get the best possible care for your condition. This means sometimes they may recommend that you need to see a GP rather than receive the treatment you require from them.

When you see your pharmacist for one of the listed ailments, they are providing advice and, if needed, treatment for the symptoms you have described.

If your symptoms continue you should seek further advice from your GP.



## Are your prescriptions free?

If so, when you suffer from any of the minor ailments listed, instead of making a GP appointment go first to your pharmacy where you will be offered advice and free treatment.

Advice may also be obtained from the NHS Choices website: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)



If you need this leaflet in a different language, audio, large print or braille please contact us on [sheccg.comms@nhs.net](mailto:sheccg.comms@nhs.net) or 0114 305 1212.

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# Think Pharmacy 1st

## Minor Ailments Service



Working with you to make Sheffield

**HEALTHIER**

## If you get free prescriptions, you don't need to wait to see the doctor when you have any of the following ailments:

Athletes foot  
Blocked nose  
Chicken pox  
Cold sores  
Constipation  
Diarrhoea  
Eczema (Dermatitis)  
Eye infection  
Haemorrhoids (Piles)  
Hay fever  
Head lice  
Headache/ Earache/ Temperature  
Indigestion/ Heartburn/ Tummy upset  
Insect bites and stings  
Mouth ulcers  
Muscular pain  
Nappy rash  
Period pain  
Pruritus (Itching)  
Sore throat  
Teething  
Threadworm  
Thrush (including Oral thrush)  
Toothache

You can get advice and treatment from your pharmacist for free.

## Am I eligible for the service?

*Yes, if you:*

- are registered with a Sheffield GP;
- have current exemption from prescription charges;
- you register for the service;
- are suffering from one of the conditions listed.

## Can I go to any pharmacy?

Every pharmacy in Sheffield provides this service; you'll probably see these leaflets and posters on display there to show you that they do.

## What do I have to do next?

Go straight to your pharmacy. The pharmacist will see you without an appointment, though you may have to wait if they are busy.

The pharmacist will need the name of your Sheffield GP practice and confirmation that you are exempt from prescription charges. If you do not show this evidence the pharmacist may not be able to offer you this service.

You will be registered for the service or your current registration confirmed via a unique personal identity code. You will be issued with a card showing this code.

## What will the pharmacist ask?

You will be asked questions about your symptoms. These will include details about other medication you are currently taking and details about your illness.

This is to make sure that the medicines you are given are suitable for you. All details given to the pharmacist are confidential.

## Will I always get medicine?

You may not need any medicines. If this is the case the Pharmacist will give you advice on how best to deal with your symptoms.

If it is appropriate the pharmacist will give you medicine. This medicine is only for you, it may not be right for anybody else even if they have similar symptoms.

The pharmacist will also tell you the best way to take the medicine and other ways to help manage your ailments.