

NHS Pharmacy First – referrals for minor illnesses

The service is only for patients aged over 1 year.

Service suitability

CONDITIONS	What conditions are SUITABLE for referral to pharmacists?		Do NOT refer in these circumstances
BITES/STINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bee sting Wasp sting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stings with minor redness Stings with minor swelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe swellings or cramps Drowsy / fever Fast heart rate
COLDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold sores Coughs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flu-like symptoms Sore throat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chest pain Unable to swallow 1 side obstruction Facial swelling
CONGESTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blocked or runny nose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constant need to clear their throat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortness of breath Something may be in the ear canal Discharge
EAR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earache 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ear wax Blocked ear 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe pain. Deafness Vertigo
EYE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conjunctivitis Dry/sore tired eyes Eye, red or irritable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye, sticky Eyelid problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Light sensitivity Reduced vision
GASTRIC / BOWEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constipation Diarrhoea Infant colic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heartburn Indigestion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe / on-going Lasted +6 weeks Patient +55 years Blood / Weight loss
GENERAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hay fever 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sleep difficulties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe / on-going
GYNAE / THRUSH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cystitis Vaginal discharge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vaginal itch or soreness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pharmacy treatment not worked Diabetic / Pregnant Under 16 / over 60 Unexplained bleeding
PAIN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acute pain Ankle or foot pain Headache Hip pain or swelling Knee or leg pain Acne, spots and pimples Athlete's foot Blisters on foot Dermatitis / dry skin Hair loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower back pain Lower limb pain Migraine Shoulder pain Hay fever Nappy rash Oral thrush Rash - allergy Ringworm/threadworm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chest pain / pain radiating into the shoulder Pharmacy treatment not worked Sudden onset
SKIN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold sore blisters Flu-like symptoms Hoarseness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mouth ulcers Sore mouth Sore throat Thigh or buttock swelling Toe pain or swelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition described as severe or urgent Conditions have been on-going for +3 weeks Condition described as severe or urgent Conditions have been on-going for +3 weeks
MOUTH/ THROAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold sore blisters Flu-like symptoms Hoarseness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mouth ulcers Sore mouth Sore throat Thigh or buttock swelling Toe pain or swelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unable to swallow Patient has poor immune system Voice change Discolouration to skin Pharmacy treatment not worked Pharmacy treatment not worked Skin lesions / blisters with discharge Diabetes related?
SWELLING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ankle or foot swelling Lower limb swelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrist, hand or finger swelling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lasted +10 days Swollen painful gums Sores inside mouth Condition described as severe or urgent Condition ongoing for +3 weeks

Ver 1.0
© NHS England, July 2019.
Recent travel abroad