

Launch of NHS Pharmacy First advanced services. 31.1.2024

The Pharmacy First service builds on the previous Community Pharmacy referral service by enabling community pharmacies to manage seven common conditions.

Patients can access this service by walking into the pharmacy directly or where appropriate, by contacting them by video consultation. In addition, the patients can access the service via:

- NHS 111 (Online via telephone)
- NHS App
- Urgent treatment centres
- General Practice
- NHS prescription charge rules apply where medicine has been supplied.
- Exemption certificates apply to medicines supplied.

Below lists the Patient Group Directive (PGD) for participating pharmacies.

Condition	Age range	Duration of treatment
Otitis media (middle ear infection)	1-17 Exclude: recurrent acute otitis media (3 or more episodes in 6 months or four or more episodes in 12 months), pregnant individuals under 16 years	Ear drops: 7 days Antibiotics: 5 days
Shingles	18 and over Exclude: pregnant individuals	7 days
Infected insect bite	1 and over Exclude: pregnant individuals under 16 years	5 days
Sinusitis	12 and over Exclude: immunosuppressed individuals, chronic sinusitis (sinusitis that causes symptoms that last for more than 12 weeks), pregnant individuals under 16 years	Nasal sprays: 14 days Antibiotics: 5 days
Sore throat	5 and over Exclude: pregnant individuals under 16 years	5 days
UTI	16-64 – (Females only) Exclude: pregnant individuals, urinary catheter, recurrent UTI (2 episodes in last 6 months, or 3 episodes in last 12 months)	3 days
Impetigo	1 and over Exclude: bullous impetigo, recurrent impetigo (defined as 2 or more episodes in the same year), pregnant individuals under 16 years	5 days

- Distance selling Pharmacies will not complete consultations for Acute Otitis Media

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