

**You might notice some differences in the Minor Ailments Scheme**

Last year, NHS England consulted the general public on reducing prescribing of over-the-counter medicines for minor, short-term health concerns. As a result of the feedback we received, we are making some changes to the Minor Ailments Scheme.

From now on, we will be reducing the range of medications and treatments available on the Minor Ailments Scheme for self-limiting or uncomplicated conditions.

This means that medicines and treatments for conditions such as sore throats, cough and constipation will no longer be available as a part of the scheme but **are already available to buy cheaply over the counter** from your local pharmacy or supermarket.

Following the consultation on over the counter medicines, local people fed back to us that efforts should be made to support people on low incomes.

Therefore, from the 1st of April 2019, the scheme will be available to people on a low income and their dependants:

* HC2 Charges Certificate – Possession of a valid HC2 Charges Certificate
* Income Support (IS) – Possession of an IS award notice
* Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) – Possession of an ESA award notice
* Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance (JSA) – Possession of a JSA award notice
* Universal Credit (UC) – Possession of a Universal Credit statement
* NHS Tax Credit Exemption Certificate – Possession of a valid Tax Credit Exemption Certificate
* Pension Credit Guarantee Credit (PCGC) – Possession of a PCGC award notice

The pharmacy will provide advice and support to people who are eligible for the scheme on the management of the following minor ailments:

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| Sore throat -children | Dry Eye | Vaginal thrush | Threadworm |
| Viral upper respiratory tract infection (Cold) - children | Insect bites and stings - children  | Allergic rhinitis/Hay fever | Migraine |
| Fever in children | Diarrhoea | Oral thrush adult | Athletes’ foot |
| Contact dermatitis | Head lice | Conjunctivitis | Headache in children |

 

**Need help with a minor health concern? Visit your local pharmacy**

**http://www.nhs.uk/staywellpharmacy**