

## What will the pharmacist ask?

The pharmacist will ask you about your symptoms to work out what is wrong and what treatment is suitable for you. The information you give to the pharmacist will be confidential. Most pharmacies have a consulting room so that the pharmacist can talk to patients in private.

The pharmacist will tell you if you need to see a doctor.

## Can I go to any pharmacy?

Most pharmacies in Southwark offer the Pharmacy First scheme. Look out for posters in the pharmacy, ask your GP's reception staff or look on NHS Southwark Clinical Commissioning Group's website:

[www.southwarkccg.nhs.uk](http://www.southwarkccg.nhs.uk)

The pharmacist will see you without an appointment but remember to take evidence that you don't need to pay for prescriptions with you.



## Did you know?

If you don't pay prescription charges you can get medicines free from your local pharmacy without needing to visit your GP.

PHARMACY FIRST   
 Pharmacy First common illness scheme

# What is the Pharmacy First scheme?

Pharmacists are highly trained experts in medicines. The Pharmacy First scheme gives you quick and local access to advice and treatment from the pharmacist at your local pharmacy about common illnesses. You don't need to wait to see your doctor and you don't need an appointment.

If you don't pay for your prescriptions the pharmacist will be able to give you medicines to treat the conditions listed in this leaflet and they will be FREE.



**PHARMACY FIRST**   
Pharmacy First common illness scheme

# What treatments are available on the scheme?

The Pharmacy First scheme covers advice and treatment for the conditions below:

- Allergies
- Athlete's foot
- Cold sores
- Conjunctivitis
- Constipation
- Coughs and colds
- Diarrhoea
- Earwax
- Fever
- Hay fever
- Headache
- Head lice
- Insect bites and stings
- Itching due to chickenpox
- Minor burns and scalds
- Mouth ulcers
- Nappy rash
- Piles
- Sore throat
- Sprains and strains
- Teething
- Threadworm
- Vaginal thrush
- Indigestion

# Who can use this service?

Everyone can get free advice from any pharmacist but to be able to get free medicines you must be:

- ✓ Registered with a Southwark GP
- ✓ Entitled to free prescriptions.

If you normally pay for your prescriptions you can still get free advice from any pharmacy, however, you will be charged the retail price of any medicines provided.

## What if I'm not registered with a GP?

Registering with a GP practice is easy.



Contact a GP practice close to where you live and ask to register. You can telephone the practice or just walk in to reception.

The receptionist will ask you for a few personal details so they can contact you about appointments and any further tests or treatment you need.

If you need help finding your nearest practice call NHS England on 0300 311 2233 or go to NHS Choices ([www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)).