



THE THREE SHIRES MEDICAL PRACTICE

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Help With Healthcare Costs

Healthcare costs can add up, but support is available. You may be able to get help with prescriptions, dental care, eye tests, glasses and travel to NHS appointments. This leaflet explains the different types of help and how to find out if you qualify.

Many people worry about the cost of healthcare.

You may need help paying for:

- Prescriptions
- Dental treatment
- Eye tests
- Glasses or contact lenses
- Travel to hospital appointments

Support is available for many people.

You may get help because of:

- Your age
- Your income
- Your health condition
- Benefits you receive

If you are not sure, ask for advice.

Free Prescriptions

Some people can get free NHS prescriptions.

This includes many people who:

- Are under 16
- Are aged 16 to 18 and in full-time education
- Are aged 60 or over
- Are pregnant or have had a baby in the last 12 months
- Receive certain benefits
- Have some medical conditions

Ask your pharmacist, GP practice, or NHS website if you are unsure.

Prescription Prepayment Certificates (PPC)

If you pay for lots of prescriptions, a Prescription Prepayment Certificate could save you money.

A PPC lets you pay one set price for all your NHS prescriptions over a period of time. This means you do not have to pay for each prescription separately.

A PPC may save money if you need regular medicines.

For more information: www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk

NHS Low Income Scheme

The NHS Low Income Scheme helps people on a low income with healthcare costs.

You may get help with:

- Prescriptions
- Dental treatment
- Eye care
- Glasses
- Travel costs to NHS appointments

You do not have to be receiving benefits to apply.

You can apply online or ask for help to complete an application.

For more information: www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/nhs-low-income-scheme

Help With Travel Costs

Some people can get help with the cost of travelling to NHS appointments.

This is called the Healthcare Travel Costs Scheme.

You may be able to claim money back for travel if:

- You receive certain benefits
- You have a low income
- You are travelling to an NHS appointment

Always keep your tickets and receipts.

Ask the hospital before you travel if you think you may be able to claim.

Help With Dental Costs

Some people can receive free NHS dental treatment or Help towards the cost of treatment. This may depend on:

- Your age
- Benefits you receive
- Your income
- Whether you are pregnant

Ask your dentist if you are unsure.

Help With Eye Tests and Glasses

You may be able to get:

- Free NHS eye tests
- Help with the cost of glasses
- Help with contact lenses

Ask your optician for advice.

Where Can I Get More Help?

Citizens Advice 0808 278 7947

Advice about: Benefits | Debt | Money worries | Healthcare costs

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/health/get-advice-about-health-services/>

Social Prescribing 0117 403 4238

A Social Prescriber can help you find local support and services

<https://southernbrooks.org.uk/social-prescribing-self-referral-form/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/help-with-health-costs/>

<https://www.gov.uk/help-nhs-costs>