



# May 2025 Newsletter

Welcome to The Village Medical Centre's latest newsletter! We're delighted to connect with you and share updates from our practice and valuable health information to support your well-being. This month's edition contains information about ...

## Closure Notice:

We will be closed on **Monday 26th May** for Spring Bank Holiday. Normal opening hours will resume from Tuesday 27th May (8-6:30pm).

Please use the 111 service should you require any medical attention or a prescription (including repeat medication). You can also access the 111 triage via the NHS app.

In the case of emergency please ring 999.

## Pharmacy First Scheme

From 31st January 2024 the pharmacy first scheme launched which allows patients to access medical advice/medication directly from a pharmacist for several common conditions which removes the need to see the doctor.

### Pharmacies can provide medication for:

- 1) **Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs)**- for women aged 16-64 years who have not had two or more UTIs in the previous 6 months. Not for patients who are pregnant/breast feeding or have a catheter.
- 2) **Shingles**—for patients aged 18 years and over who have had the rash present for between 72 hours and 7 days. Not for pregnant patients.
- 3) **Impetigo**—for patients aged 1 year and over who have localized non-bullous impetigo (red sores/golden brown crusts) without any systemic symptoms such as a fever. Patients who have had 2 or more episode of impetigo in 12 months are to see a doctor. Not for pregnant patients.



Sign up for our newsletter to receive a copy straight to your inbox:

You can self-refer to a Rowlands pharmacy:



4) **Infected Insect Bites**— for patients aged 1 and over with localized signs of infection. Patients with systemic symptoms such as a fever or who have been bitten/stung outside the UK are to see a doctor. Not for pregnant patients under 16 years old.

5) **Acute Sore Throat**—for patients aged 5 years and over who have not had 7 episodes in 12 months, 5 in the each of the last 2 years or 3 in each of the last years. Not for pregnant patients under 16 years old.

6) **Acute Sinusitis**—for patients aged 12 years and over who have had symptoms lasting more than 10 days without improvement. Only for patients who have not had 4 or more episodes in the last 12 months. Not for pregnant patients under 16 years old.

7) **Acute Otitis Media** (Ear Infection Of Middle Ear) - for patients aged 1 to 17 years old. Not suitable for patients with perforated eardrum, discharge from the ear or severe symptoms. Not for pregnant patients under 16 years old or for patients with recurrent episodes (3 or more in the last 6 months, or 4 or more in the last 12 months). Asda pharmacy offer an earache service for adults (18 years and over) with a charge starting from £25.

Find out more information visit the NHS website:

[www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/pharmacies/how-pharmacies-can-help/](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/pharmacies/how-pharmacies-can-help/)

We would love to hear your thoughts!

We have an online form which allows you to freely type your feedback about any aspect of the surgery. Alternatively, we also forms in reception to complete.

Scan the QR code on the right to complete your feedback now

