

'BUY YOUR OWN MEDICINES' PLAN

Family doctors to look at ending prescriptions for minor illnesses



COMMON: Everyday 'pills and potions'

By PETER MAGILL
peter.magill@nqnrw.co.uk

PATIENTS are set to be told to pay for their own medication in a bid to save hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Plans have been unveiled by Blackburn with Darwen CCG to recoup \$663,000 per year by refusing to prescribe everything from pain relief and

CONTINUED » 2

'Buy your own medicines' policy plan

FROM PAGE ONE

indigestion medication to head lice treatments, anti-histamines and sun creams.

And it has been confirmed that East Lancashire CCG, which covers Hyndburn, Ribbles Valley, Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale, which has a significantly larger budget, is likely to be publish proposals for a similar policy in the near future.

The move is likely to have the biggest impact on people who are eligible for free prescriptions.

Russ McLean, chairman of East Lancashire Patients Voice, said while many might agree with painkillers and stomach pills being removed from the prescribing list, other medications would prove controversial.

"If you are talking about sun creams, for example, which may be prescribed for people with skin cancers, then this could be vital in ensuring sufferers can go out in the sunlight," said Mr McLean.

"I would want to meet with the

CCG and have an explanation of just why some of these medications, which can be very important to patients, should be cut.

"It would seem to me that the CCG are in debt and they are having to claw back money from patients, which is unacceptable.

Health bosses in Blackburn with Darwen say that £232,336 is paid out for pain relief and £74,469 for indigestion relief each year.

The budget for anti-histamines is £71,664, £40,670 is spent on skin creams, head lice treatments cost £24,261 and the bill for sunscreen is £7,181, among a list of 20 medications for common complaints which would be axed from the prescribing list.

Clinical commissioners want patients to 'self care' - and claim many of the items can be bought over the counter for less than the £8.40 charge for a standard prescription.

Dr Preeti Shukla, the Blackburn with Darwen CCG's clinical lead,

said: "We want to encourage people to self-care where they can and there are lots of resources available to help them. The NHS Choices website is excellent for minor conditions and pharmacies are a good source of advice and support.

"By removing medicines for short-term, minor conditions from routine prescriptions, it will free up GP time to treat patients with more urgent or serious medical problems and it means dwindling medicines budgets can be used for more serious conditions."

Andy Griffiths, Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen's chief officer, said: "In the near future with the changes that will happen to health and social care services, as part of the current sustainability and transformation plan, it is vital that residents have a voice. I would urge the public to fill out the consultation online or contact us so we can challenge decision makers about the proposals and get people's voices heard."

The following are comments attached to the online version of the article on Lancashire Telegraph's website:

Achtung Bono 5:54am Thu 9 Feb 17

It's always amazed me that products available over the counter should be dispensed on prescription. You have the ridiculous situation where the decent people can be expected to pay £8.40 for the prescription of a 25p medicine while the feckless scroungers can Hoover up their fill of drugs for free.

Let the whinging commence.

Report

Score: 25

jacktheladfromWrexham → **Achtung Bono** 6:08am Thu 9 Feb 17

Absolutely spot on well said.

Report

Score: 10

Owd Akela → **jacktheladfromWrexham** 5:35pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Is it just me or am I the only one that would never go to my doctor for a prescription for something so trivial as ear wax treatment, a few drops of warm vegetable oil and a plug of cotton wool - sorted!

Report

Score: 1

big bad bob → **Achtung Bono** 6:26am Thu 9 Feb 17

For once I applaud your comment.

No wonder the NHS is on it's knees let's hope we can put an end to health tourism when we leave the EU

Funny really a labour lemming acknowledging that no matter how much money is pumped into the NHS we need to stop the abuse!

Report

Score: 7

Achtung Bono → **big bad bob** 6:53am Thu 9 Feb 17

I'm filling up when one of Rupert's useful idiots agrees with me then falsely accuses me of being anything to do with 'labour' (sic).

You really are functionally illiterate, Blobby, when you think every 'its' needs an apostrophe. Your one there doesn't. If in doubt, LEAVE IT OUT!

Report

Score: 4

big bad bob → **Achtung Bono** 5:48am Fri 10 Feb 17

Ouch that hurt.

That was a bit below the belt.

I shall have a word with the spellcheck on my iPhone 🖐

Report

Score: 0

jacktheladfromWrexham → **big bad bob** 7:33am Thu 9 Feb 17

Money down the drain MANAGEMENT INEPT GOOD CLEAR OUT OF ALL THE BLOODY PEN PUSHERS AND MORE FOR THE NURSES , CLEANERS PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY MATTER!!!!!!!

Last edited: 1:59pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Report

Score: 3

boynesider → **big bad bob** 3:24pm Thu 9 Feb 17

We can claim back money for people from the EU if we take the trouble to do it. We don't have that option from non EU countries and no amount of Brexit ranting will change that. There is way too much abuse of the NHS, like ambulances sent to take people to hospital appointments. I know of someone offered aspirin on a free prescription? Less than a pound a box? We need to have a tighter rein on the money as it belongs to the nation. Patients, medics and the government all have a part to play. People who want it privatised can also opt out of using it and go private instead of just berating it. Just a thought Ranting

Report

Score: 2

grumpyoldlady → **boynesider** 5:27pm Thu 9 Feb 17

I was asked by my doctor if I would like the aspirin I take daily added to my prescription. I said it would probably cost more for it to be dispensed by prescription than it does for me to buy it over the counter. The doctor agreed, so why did he offer to put it on prescription in the first place. It costs about £1.20 for three months supply! We all have a part to play in preserving our NHS, doctors and patients alike.

Report

Score: 2

boynesider → **grumpyoldlady** 7:03pm Thu 9 Feb 17

We are too quick in this country to prescribe medicine, driven, I think, by pharmaceutical companies. I once saw a consultant who said he had a letter from NICE advising him to prescribe statins to people with borderline cholesterol. I refused his offer and told him I would fast before the next blood test, which is what was the correct way to measure at the time. When I was retested my cholesterol was fine. I have a mate who lives in Spain who tells me there they consider other options first, diet, exercise and lifestyle before reaching for the prescription pad

Report

Score: 0

Owd Akela → **boynesider** 5:37pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Ambulances are NOT sent to take people for hospital appointments. The vehicles are mini buses with the NWAS logos on the side.

Report

Score: 3

boynesider → **Owd Akela** 6:48pm Thu 9 Feb 17

I was talking to a guy yesterday who was about to arrange for one for an appointment next week. To be fair he may be confusing an ambulance with a minibus, that said there was no reason for this gent not to use public transport except for the cost to himself. Another expense that could be reined in?

Report

Score: 0

big bad bob → **boynesider** 5:49am Fri 10 Feb 17

It shouldn't be happening in the first place and then we wouldn't need to collect it

Report

Score: 0

mavrick → **Achtung Bono** 5:11pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Why would someone pay £8.40 for an item that cost 25p? The chemist should point that out to the customer. On a wider point this is the thin end of the wedge. They always pick on the obvious and cover the less obvious. The point raised by Russ McClean about sun cream for a patient who has skin cancer is a genuine case in point. There needs to be exemptions and flexibility for the GP to be able to prescribe as needed. Sadly this is about cuts, My view is simple. A GP should only be making decisions on clinical judgement and not on cost. A GP should not be running a surgery as a private business. I would urge everybody to keep a close eye on the local CCGs and challenge them vigourously. They have misled people over the closure of the walk in centre, People were led to believe that the services were simply being transferred to other sites in the town. Not true and never was. Vigilance is the key to prevent the run down of the NHS in our Area. The Royal Blackburn is on a list to have it's A&E reduced to urgent care or even closure. It can only happen if people let it.

Report

Score: 0

Achtung Bono → **mavrick**6:06pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Because the prescription charge is currently £8.40 per item and there are items on the P list that are as little as 25p. The chemist can point that out to the customer if he wants but in many cases doesn't because their business depends on prescription charges to keep them going.

Report

Score: 0

mavrick → **Achtung Bono**9:01pm Thu 9 Feb 17

It seems that the chemist doing this would be acting against best practice. I know the painkiller theory was dismissed in parliament at PMQs. The same statement was made by a headline sneering tory who had to be put right by Theresa May. All prices for prescription drugs are controlled by N.I.C.E and paracetamol is a fraction of the high street price so why would they try to claim £8.40 when they know the prescription charge would be questioned. I think too many people assume they know what the reality of the drug situation is. The finance people in the trust will allow this myth to continue as it strengthens their hand.

Report

Score: 0

jacktheladfromWrexham6:18am Thu 9 Feb 17

People round here get soaps shampoos etc FREE then what they save from their dole spend it on scratch cards good innit.

Report

Score: 5

big bad bob → **jacktheladfromWrexham**6:29am Thu 9 Feb 17

I have seen nappies getting prescribed in the NHS !WTF is that all about?

Report

Score: 10

Larajones → **big bad bob**10:51am Thu 9 Feb 17

Ever heard of children being disabled and being incontinent?

They are more entitled to Slips(nappies) which cannot be bought in shops because they are small adult size, than drunks and druggies getting free methadone etc on the NHS.

Some of the comments on here make me sick!!!

Report

Score: 2

thornintheside0 → **big bad bob**5:43pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Is that for your own usage?

Report

Score: 0

Muhtesem16:51am Thu 9 Feb 17

Are you ready to start moaning?

One.....Two.....Thre

e....

There are some people in this world who think they should pay for nothingthe state pays from cradle to coffin.

Their only

money they need to spend is on ..fags....booze..and the betting shop.

Next measure, pay people to get a doctor appointment.

Get your medicine from the Pound shop.....

Report

Score: 6

bishbut7:31am Thu 9 Feb 17

People these days do not want to look after themselves they expect someone else to do everything for them If nobody does then they complain The people who for some reason do need help never seem to get the help they need

Report

Score: 10

jacktheladfromWrexham ➔ **bishbut**8:02am Thu 9 Feb 17

well said its the looney left and liberal do gooders who are ruining this country with their soft nancy approach.

Report

Score: 5

thornintheside0 ➔ **jacktheladfromWrexham**5:46pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Its the ranting right wingers who if they ever had the chance would privatise the NHS in a flash. You show your ignorance with your bedsit rant and the ignorance of the true facts. If it wasn't for the left wing there would be no NHS so get your fascist head round that one!

Report

Score: 1

TOMMY19768:09am Thu 9 Feb 17

indigestion tablets poundland .. better than the prescribed ones .. if you can't afford a £1 then ***** off out of this country

Report

Score: 7

Outlandish ➔ **TOMMY1976**9:30am Thu 9 Feb 17

How embarrassing to run to the gp to prescribe head lice treatment. Sheer laziness.

Report

Score: 5

tntoast8:38am Thu 9 Feb 17

sorry I am missing some thing HEAD LICE buy a nit comb

pain relief 2 for a pound at the pound shop

pay for it

Report

Score: 8

jacktheladfromWrexham ➔ **tntoast**9:33am Thu 9 Feb 17

they would rather pay for a scratch card - useless waste of lives..

Report

Score: 5

thornintheside0 → **jacktheladfromWrexham** 5:48pm Thu 9 Feb 17

says the superior Fascist who spends his money wisely on items he can afford. He has no tick he owes nothing to nobody and I bet he's retired now at the age of 45. Dream on!

Report

Score: 0

jacktheladfromWrexham → **thornintheside0** 5:59am Fri 10 Feb 17

55 worked and scraped a living since i was 16! NHS a wonderful thing but certain sections of society taking the pi...and it's not being used for its intended purpose. Me a fascist yeh whatever!!!!

Report

Score: 0

Outlandish 9:28am Thu 9 Feb 17

Sickens me that prescriptions at charged the same per item. Sickens me that the majority of people who could pay for meds get them absolutely free and insist on GPs to prescribe. See many a drug addict come into the chemist for his methadone fix ..make them pay!

Report

Score: 5

thornintheside0 → **Outlandish** 5:49pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Move to Scotland. Its free prescriptions up there! A country that looks after its citizens unlike Little england.

Report

Score: 0

yyy's1 9:32am Thu 9 Feb 17

Want to save money? stop the free cash to all those scroungers that won't work. I know one who spends his time giving a portion of his free money to the bookies.

Report

Score: 4

Sanmarko 9:59am Thu 9 Feb 17

Agree with all the comments so far on here,waiting for the liberal defence to chirp in,or the dossers

Report

Score: 4

thornintheside0 → **Sanmarko** 5:50pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Easy targets aren't they the poor? Well don't worry most of the idiots writing on here will be joining them and then we'll look down on them.

Report

Score: 0

HelmshoreMan2010 12:20pm Thu 9 Feb 17

I was lucky enough to not need the doctors until age 22 (other than when my parents took me as a child). I had an ear infection, needed some antibiotics apparently.

I strolled up to the counter and she told me it would be (I believe at the time) £7.20, looking confused and remembering how much they take from my wage to pay for this I replied with "No no it's ok I work so they are free aren't they".

How wrong I was, how wrong the system is.

Report

Score: 1

BIGGLESTOE12:41pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Certain members of our communities, expect and claim for half of their weekly shop, by putting extra wasted time burdens on their local GP's. I fully welcome this clamp down. For instance ffs, a packet of paracetamols is only 20p at Lydl/Aldi/Home Bargains. I wouldn't insult the Doctor by asking him/her to stick these on my prescription. If like myself, people pay for regular medicine, I suggest purchasing a 3 month pre-paid prescription card and ask your Doctor to give you 3 month medicine prescription, which if is efficiently used, can give you 6 month medication for under £30! Expectant selfish society members, seems that your time is up.

Last edited: 6:10pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Report

Score: 6

Outlandish → **BIGGLESTOE**2:55pm Thu 9 Feb 17

I definitely agree...the prepaid certificates work out much better if you are on regular medication. By the time mortgages, bills, food shop, petrol etc is paid for there is hardly any money left in the pot. Still working people (who are not on a £30 000 wage) have to put aside for clothes, children, not, insurances etc..where the help do we find money for the unforeseen or holidays even. It's definitely a tough life but people who don't work seem to be better off when I look around..how has this happened???? It shouldn't shock me but still does.

Report

Score: 2

udonmalc2:14pm Thu 9 Feb 17

how many off our friends come out off the chemist with carrier bags full off medication then ship it off back to their own country and the chemist know this is going on and has been for yrs

Report

Score: 3

Outlandish → **udonmalc**2:58pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Well that needs reviewing by the gp prescribing so much medication.

Report

Score: 1

BlackburnwithDarwenCCG2:56pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Please complete our very short survey - we want to capture everyone's views, whatever they may be! Thanks

<http://www.blackburnwithdarwenccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/current-consultation/proposals-stop-prescribing-medicines-minor-conditions/>

Report

Score: 3

Lightbringer3:06pm Thu 9 Feb 17

It is definitely a scandal that the NHS wastes so much money on medicines etc that people can buy for themselves. I think the show has been kept on the road by people who are 'entitled' to free prescriptions. Like other aspects of the welfare state, it's a poor do for many working people who have to pay for prescriptions and are contributors to the system through paying tax.

Report

Score: 2

Copperhead4:47pm Thu 9 Feb 17

You can bet a £ to a pinch of sh1t that immigrants are the worst culprits. My sister works for the NHS - she is a Nurse Practitioner and has been for well over 10yrs. She works at a large local hospital and she has told me on more than one occasion that (and I quote) " Foreigners are swamping the NHS ". Whilst acknowledging the contribution that certain immigrants make to the running of the NHS, it is not they who are the problem. It is the thousands of them in this area alone who make incessant demands on the NHS for drugs and surgeries and procedures that are the problem. They demand free prescriptions for everything and anything - when told a pack of paracetamol at ALDI can be had for 39p, they always reply - " I no pay. In England everything is free ". My niece hears this statement every day. Asian immigrants are the worst she says - someone who can enter the UK for work or marriage wastes no time in bringing over myriad elderly relations complete with third-world diseases. These parasites, never having worked or paid tax here in their lives are then entitled to everything FOC, because they sure as sh1t will never work here, ever. Many others demand multiple prescriptions because they are " going home for three months for a wedding ". My sister and her colleagues know that the prescriptions will be collected and the drugs sent back to Pakistan or Bangla Desh or wherever (African nations seem to be featuring more and more she says. Why so many blacks in Blackburn ?) Needless to say, the "patient" reappears after a week claiming to have "lost" the prescriptions and demanding some replacements. This country, not just the NHS, is being bled white by immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, health tourists and other assorted parasites. Our politicians do nothing but instead argue if President Trump should be allowed a state visit or if it's correct to check the age of so-called "child refugees ". Talk about re-arranging the deck chairs on the Titanic. What did we white, native brits ever do to deserve all this ? How in God's name did stupid, naive, liberal left-wing policies ever gain so much traction to the point they are destroying the social and economic fabric of our society ? If there is a God, may he indeed have mercy on our children's children's children - because they are going to need all the help they can get.

Report

Score: 5

thornintheside0 → **Copperhead**6:07pm Thu 9 Feb 17

here we go here we go. I bet most of those stories are made up to try to bolster your right-wing point. How is it that most of the letter writers on here bemoan left wing liberal types like the Sun or daily Mail comics they read ? Is it because they have their own racist agenda like this troll? He never notices that white people might be up to no good as well. or that certain companies and businessmen and lawyers and police are up to no good neither. get your collective heads out of your backsides and look around properly. we're all being fleeced! have you had your tax returns yet? can you see what's at the bottom of all those taxes you pay? yeah that's right the Uk contribution from the Uk to the EU you pay more for everything else. and before one of these Nazis starts saying 'that means more for us'. It does not. Its earmarked for farmers subsidies and bribing multi-national companies to stay here. so you'll be ending up paying for more just because you lot read a a lot of lying statistics from your comics about the country being swamped with immigrants. Idiots you all need some strong medication each and every one of you.

Report

Score: 1

Terry tibbs says it how it is 4:51pm Thu 9 Feb 17

We should all be more responsible pay for your own off the shelf medicines ,, people who don't work get it free and the ones that work don't that's back to front ,, I've heard of toothpaste been given ,, got to Asda and it's £2 a tube some people are to selfish .

Report

Score: 2

jeffers01 5:15pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Even though I do agree with the proposal, I can suggest something that will save even more money - Investigate those who leave Pharmacies with bags full of medication, lots of which finish up being sent to their Families "back home" in other countries.

Report

Score: 3

Achtung Bono 5:29pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Well I think we're all pretty much on the same page on this one, aren't we? I've never seen so much agreement before on a specific issue and there's been no arguments on this thread at all.

I listened intently to the Jeremy Vine show about this subject yesterday and the only thing that surprised me is why all Health Authorities everywhere in the country don't bring this in right away. The only ones who've done it so far are Wirral. Blackburn is actually asking for people's opinions on the matter when they should bring the axe on the freeloaders down double-quick time while Burnley aren't even at the consultation stage yet! It's a no-bleedin'-brainer. Bring the axe down now!

Report

Score: 3

thornintheside0 → **Achtung Bono** 6:10pm Thu 9 Feb 17

So what do you say about free medicines in Scotland and Wales? We're all being fleeced but all everybody here goes on about is blaming immigrants or sorting the mess out. Make it free!! its our NHS and we pay into it.Its the drug companies who are pushing the cost of medicines up and draining the NHS. Achtung I'm sorry but you're not reading the whole situation properly

Report

Score: 2

Achtung Bono → **thornintheside0** 6:50pm Thu 9 Feb 17

Och, I dinnae ken, bore da. And please note I never once made any reference to immigrants as that's a red herring to catch the gullible and unwary.

While I'd be very much in agreement with scrapping prescription charges, they are unlikely to be abolished any time soon particularly when we are under the yoke of a tory regime but Labour never reduced or scrapped them when it was their turn so we can forget that pipe-dream.

So while we're stuck with prescription charges, they have to be applied more fairly and not on P items when they can be purchased OTC.

And I'm also not in agreement about the drug companies being behind this. If the weren't allowed to make a profit, there would be zero research and development so no new breakthroughs as they'd have no incentive to invest in new compounds or investigate novel approaches to existing and new diseases and conditions.

Report

The following are comments attached to the article posted by Lancashire Telegraph on Facebook:



NHS Blackburn with Darwen CCG Please may we ask you to complete our very short survey so we can capture your views, what ever they may be. Just to clarify very quickly, there will be exceptions so for example anyone with a long term or medical condition will continue to receive their prescription as normal.<http://www.blackburnwithdarwenccg.nhs.uk/.../proposals.../>
Like · Reply · Commented on by Shelley Prophet · 12 mins



Bernadette Riding How many receive medication that we have not requested from the chemist on repeat prescriptions, try giving it back, they will not accept it. I only reached the outside of the chemist, checked the contents of my bag, went straight back inside and said that I hadn't taken this particular medication for over a year as I was allergic to it. I was informed that each pack of tablets contain a bar code which had been allocated to me and could not resold on, I was also informed that because I had reach outside the door that was another reason they wouldn't allow me to return them. I could continue with a number of our own stories of similar nature and off tablets having been lost from an alleged sealed bag stapled bag,from the chemist to the delivery of my home.I have reported this and feel all chemist should accountable!
Like · Reply · 35 mins



Rick Mooney Remind me again why I paid national insurance contributions for 50 years ??
Like · Reply · 5 hrs

3 Replies · 1 hr



Joanne Anchors Most pharmacy's will tell you if a medication is cheaper to buy than getting it on prescription, also there are lots of people like the article says that end up not actually using the meds and because its on repeat prescription ends up stock piled at the patients homes unable to be used by anyone else !! Thankfully things have changed and pharmacy's cannot re-order for you so the Doctors have more controll of mis-management of the repeats.
Like · Reply · 1 hr · Edited



Joyce Kirkham One of the more sensible ideas I've heard of for a while
Like · Reply · 1 hr



Edna Beach I have scalp psoriasis and someone recommended a gel. I looked it up on the Web and it was £85. I couldn't believe it and said I couldn't afford that much and was told to get it on prescription. I'm already on a lot of meds and wouldn't ask my doc for something like that which isn't essential.
Like · Reply · 1 hr



Leesa Warwick I have medical exemption on prescriptions due to medical condition I have which means I need certain medication for the rest of my life. I never abuse that, I don't stockpile my medication and I buy my own paracetamol, ibuprofen, anti-histamines, vitamin supplements, dry skin creams etc. The only things I get on prescription are the things that I can't buy over the counter. I totally agree with this.
Like · Reply · 2 hrs



Donna Riley I've worked as a carer and been to many houses and seen monthly prescriptions delivered that don't even get used. Stock piling huge amounts of creams and pain gels laxido etc. I at one point had to inform next of kin to put a stop to

the repeat orders has they weren't getting used. Surely these should be monitored too. These are not cheap 22p packs of paracetamol either

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 9 · 6 hrs



Rachel Louise Baxter I've seen this too.. such a waste

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 4 hrs



Edna Beach They don't seem to check repeat subscriptions. I got 5 items I didn't ask for last time. They will come in but that's not the point. Also I always have to show my book for Warfarin but they don't check the dosage and I always get too much.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 hrs



Write a reply...



Tanya McShane I didn't even know you could get antihistamines on prescription??! Who gets a prescription for these things 😄😄

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 hrs



Grant Munroe Well the stomach pills I'm on esomeprazole were prescribed to counter act an ulcer caused by naproxen to buy esomeprazole it's £14 for 14 tablets and I take two a day

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 hrs



Maureen Taylor Quite a few medicines for minor ailments are expensive if your on a low income . Some people cant even afford food which is why the food banks are popping up everywhere. Seems to me its just taking of the people at the bottom of the ladder again and as this government wants, getting us all to fight amongst each other instead of looking at the people costing society billions in unpaid taxes vat etc. Before you all jump down my throat , im lucky enough to be able to buy my medicine. Be grateful that you are !!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · 6 hrs · Edited

[Hide 11 Replies](#)



Charlotte Callaghan Genuinely wouldn't call 22p for a pack of paracetamol expensive xx

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 · 6 hrs



Pete Duxbury Most of the medicines are cheaper than 20 ciggies

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 4 · 6 hrs



Adele Butler Most head lice treatments cost around £10, verruca treatments are expensive too if your on a low budget, if your on a low budget you can't afford 20 cigs

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 5 hrs



Pete Duxbury The best head lice treatment is a nit comb and conditioner. It's probably quicker as well

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 4 hrs



Maureen Taylor Charlotte Callaghan I agree everyone can afford paracetamol, I'm referring to other medicines which can be £4 or £5, which yes is less than a prescription charge but a lot of money if your on a very low income

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 3 hrs



Maureen Taylor Pete Duxbury very judgemental to think everyone on a low income smokes

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 2 · 3 hrs



Amy Louise Watson Yet a prescription is nearly £9 for those of us who can't get out prescriptions for free and the cost of funding paracetamol on prescription is ridiculous when you can pick this up for less than 20p! I work in the NHS and it's not always those who can!...[See more](#)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Dani Ella Batty As usual too many will choose cigarettes alcohol nails makeup hair extensions and then when medicine is needed they rely on the GP to dish it for free (if on benefits) , i have always been on a low income but i wouldn't dream of queuing at the doctors for things such as nit lotion , its common sense ! and how i was brought up i guess , not to take the piss out of the NHS

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 3 hrs



James Telford If you can't afford to buy your medication, then you need to do something about it. It isn't up to the government to wipe your asses when you fail. The beauty of a capitalism is that you can create opportunities. The British public are lazy. Especially in the north. the majority of poverty is created by laziness.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Maureen Taylor Dani Ella Batty again so judgemental, just because you are struggling to afford medicines does not make you have had a bad upbringing or to be " taking the piss" out of the NHS . There will always be people who take advantage of things but a blanket ban will affect those in genuine need

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Maureen Taylor Amy Louise Watson I 100% agree paracetamol shouldn't be available on prescription

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Write a reply...



Phil Watson I pay for my prescriptions but I would NEVER ask for anything I could get over the counter. People using the NHS for such medicines are a big reason why it's in such a mess. THE NHS IS SPENDING 80 MILLION ON PARACETAMOL EVERY YEAR. HOW MUCH CRITICAL CA...[See more](#)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Varan Komodsky Fair enough. If I pay 50p for something that costs the NHS I dunno what I feel good.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Amy Louise Watson So those who don't pay for their prescriptions are not willing to buy things like paracetamol that is less than 20p a pack in the supermarket because they see it as 'free' well it's not bloody free!! It is costing everybody else!! Gosh my grandparents ...[See more](#)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 3 hrs



Karen White Most of these things are cheaper than prescription fees, so must be aimed at people on free prescriptions. In the pound shop world we live in there's no excuse not to get your own

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 4 hrs



Cassandra Hughes I can't believe people would ask for paracetamol or sun creams on prescription anyway... but them like most people do!!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 1 · 4 hrs



Dani Ella Batty GOOD !! It's a bloody joke expecting to be given these items for free , and have heard it said in the past " why pay for it when dr gives it out for free ?" shameful attitude

Like · Reply · 2 · 6 hrs



Laura Barlow Not everyone get it FREE

Like · Reply · 6 hrs



Sheila Jones Surely those who don't get it free are better paying £2.80 for a month's maximum dosage paracetamol 2 x 4 times a day) over the counter rather than the £8.60 it would cost if it was on a prescription?

Like · Reply · 2 · 4 hrs



Dani Ella Batty I didn't say everyone Laura Barlow re read !

Like · Reply · 4 hrs



Write a reply...



Michaela Pickup Most of em you can get a cheap at poundshops always bought my children's calpol never got it on proscription

Like · Reply · 2 · 6 hrs



Ronald Jefferson Yeh if you goto b&m its 99p for both strengths of kids paracetamol. Exactly the same as calpol for a fraction of the price.

Like · Reply · 4 hrs



Write a reply...



Sheila Jones I have had a long term illness for the last 6 years that requires various medications, including 2 paracetamol four times a day. I was 61 and retired when I became ill so my prescriptions were free. It never entered my head to ask for the paracetamol on prescription, I just assumed I would buy my own and always have.

Like · Reply · 5 · 5 hrs



Jackie Louise Eccles Just wondering if the addicts have to pay for their methadone too.....that would save some money!!!!!!

Like · Reply · 1 · 6 hrs



Sarah Emily Long term that probably wouldn't save money it'd cost a lot more. Addicts often don't have the means to pay for their methodone so would resort to crime to pay for heroin instead. Then they're more likely to end up needing treatment in hospitals or in...[See more](#)

Like · Reply · 1 · 5 hrs



Ronald Jefferson Sarah Emily. Yep.

Like · Reply · 5 hrs



Write a reply...



Ronald Jefferson If its available over the counter make people buy it themselves. Ive noticed this happening before now though. when you used to goto for example accy vic with a child they would give you paracetamol, now they just tell you to buy some. If you take in a...[See more](#)

Like · Reply · 4 hrs · Edited



Andrew Jackson About time..fed up up of waiting while someone is wanting laxatives.paracetamol or bonjela etc etc silly things you can buy from the chemist.

Like · Reply · 2 · 6 hrs · Edited



Nikki Haden I agree most of it is cheaper over the counter but sometimes people with long term bowel problems for example still need treating especially elderly who just wouldn't go out and buy a laxative, maybe they should actually educate ppl by giving them a br...[See more](#)

Like · Reply · 5 hrs



Andrew Jackson Minor - Long term two opposites...

Like · Reply · 5 hrs

Write a reply...



Kellie Sproule I pay for my prescriptions and i wouldn't mind paying over the counter for those medicines but those who are all ready struggling should still be allowed to have them on free prescriptions

Like · Reply · 1 · 6 hrs



Rachel Louise Baxter You can get most of them medications dirt cheap anyway, I've always bought my kids minor illness medication.. even my own. My doctor doesn't prescribe those sort of things anyway..

Like · Reply · 1 · 6 hrs



Stevie Burns There is traffic lights on are Street as well

Like · Reply · 6 hrs



Natasha De-Maine Why people don't pay 15-301 for simple medications is beyond belief! Saves the NHS lots of money if we all do that

Like · Reply · 1 · 6 hrs



Airport taxi Blackburn I agree. People are happy to wait for 2 hours to be given 25p paracetamol tablets.

And what happened to professional...[See more](#)

Like · Reply · 6 hrs · Edited



Caroline Ingham What's a "perscription" ?

Like · Reply · 11 · 6 hrs