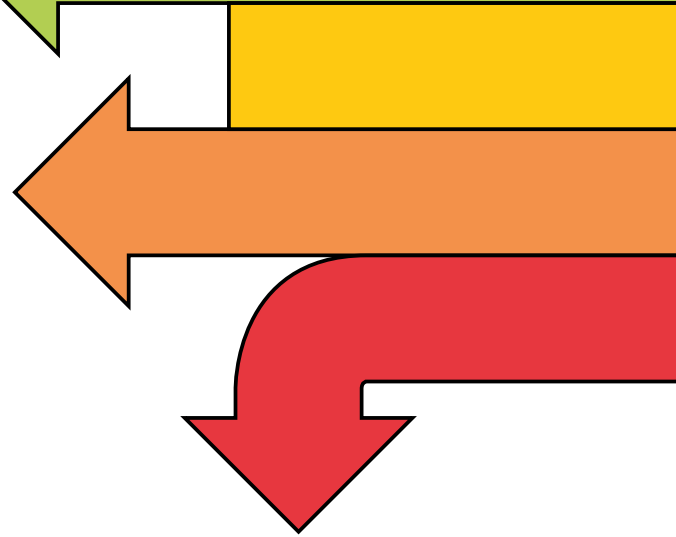
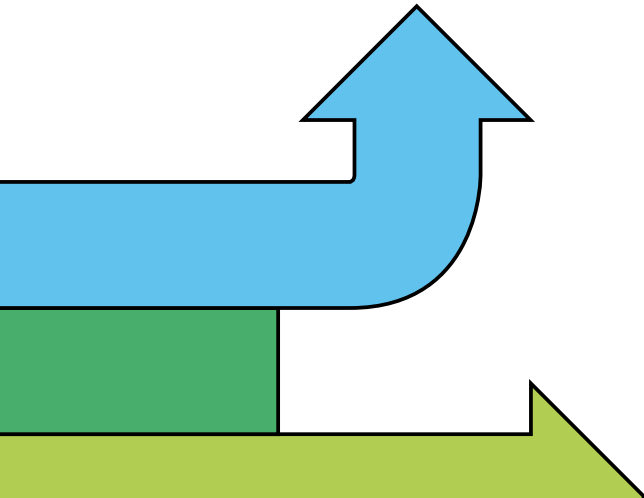




Find the treatment
you need at
111.nhs.uk or **call 111**

When you use the right NHS service, you get the right treatment sooner.

The first thing you should know is which service you should use for your symptoms.



This booklet shows the range of NHS services available to you and your family. Keep it handy, so when you're not feeling well, or need treatment straight away, you know where to go.



Self-care

Many illnesses and minor injuries don't always need a doctor or a nurse (or any other health professional).

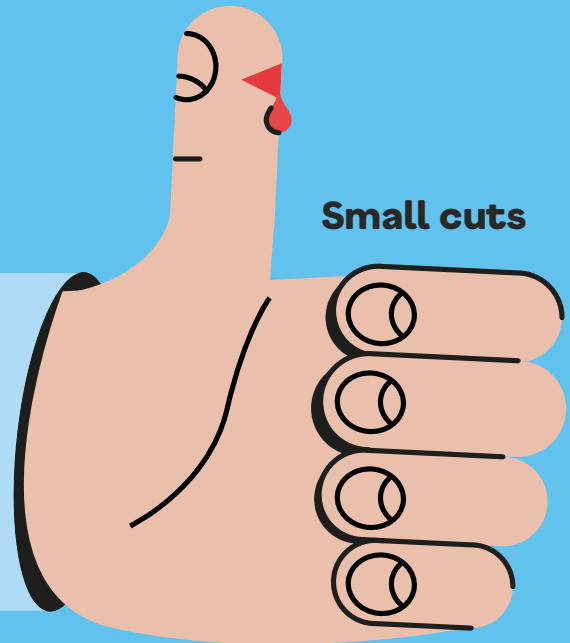
Sometimes rest, lots of water and over-the-counter medicines (available at supermarkets or your local pharmacy or chemist) can help your recovery at home.

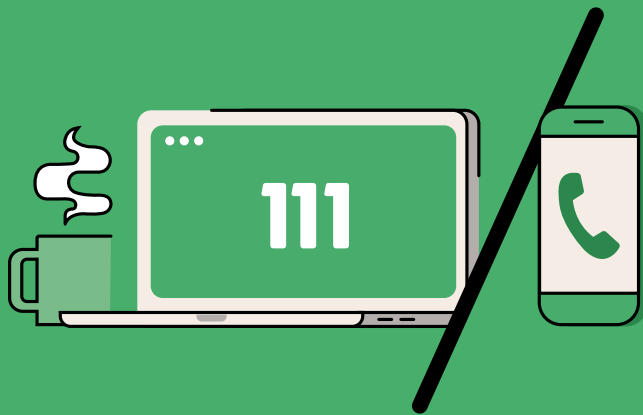
- Coughs, colds and sore throats
- Sprains or strains
- Sinusitis
- Earache
- Constipation
- Headache



For advice on treating a range of minor illnesses and injuries at home, go to:

www.nhs.uk





NHS 111

If you're not sure what to do or where to go, go to 111.nhs.uk or call 111. It's available 24/7, 365 days a year.



You'll firstly talk to an advisor, but healthcare professionals are also available for expert advice. NHS 111 can tell you where to go AND book you a time slot, so there's less waiting when you get there.

You might be told to go to A&E, an urgent treatment or walk-in centre, a pharmacy or another local health service.

If your condition is serious or life threatening, they will call for an ambulance. Or they may just comfort you and give you tips on how to take care of yourself at home.

Go to **111.nhs.uk**
(if aged 5 or over) or
call 111 for free from
a landline or mobile.





Mental health support

If you're feeling low, anxious, stressed or overwhelmed there are lots of things you can do to lift your mood.

Try taking a walk, talking to a family member or friend or doing something relaxing like reading a book or listening to music.

However, there may be times when you may need a bit of extra help. Remember, it's OK not to be OK.

To help your mental health and wellbeing, you can access self-help advice and support, for free:

- **SilverCloud** is a confidential and secure series of programmes to help ease stress, sleep better or build resilience. To find out more, visit GM.silvercloudhealth.com/signup
- **Living Life to the Full** gives you instant access to courses that can help improve low mood, overcome stress, sleep better and build confidence. Available in 18 languages. To find out more, visit gmlifeskills.com



- You can also access safe and anonymous professional support online 24/7 by searching **kooth.com** for ages 10 to 25, or **qwell.io** for ages 26 and over. There are no waiting lists and no referral is needed.
- The **Greater Manchester Bereavement Service** is available for anyone who has been bereaved or affected by a death by whatever cause, no matter how long ago. Visit **greater-manchester-bereavement-service.org.uk**, or call **0161 983 0902**.

You can contact your GP practice and let them know how you're feeling. It may be tough to begin with, but your GP can refer you for counselling and other talking therapies that can really help.

If you need mental health advice and support urgently, there are freephone 24/7 crisis helplines for all areas of Greater Manchester.

- Bolton, Manchester, Salford, Trafford and Wigan:
0800 953 0285
- Bury, Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale, Oldham, Stockport, and Tameside and Glossop:
0800 014 9995

Shining a Light on Suicide is there for you, whether you're feeling suicidal, worried someone else is or have lost someone to suicide. Whatever you're going through, you can get the advice and support you need. Visit shiningalightonsuicide.org.uk

If it's an emergency and you're worried you can't keep yourself safe, go to your nearest A&E or **call 999** if you can't make it to a hospital.

For more details of mental health support where you live, go to:

[hub.gmintegratedcare.org.uk/
mental-health/in-your-area](https://hub.gmintegratedcare.org.uk/mental-health/in-your-area)



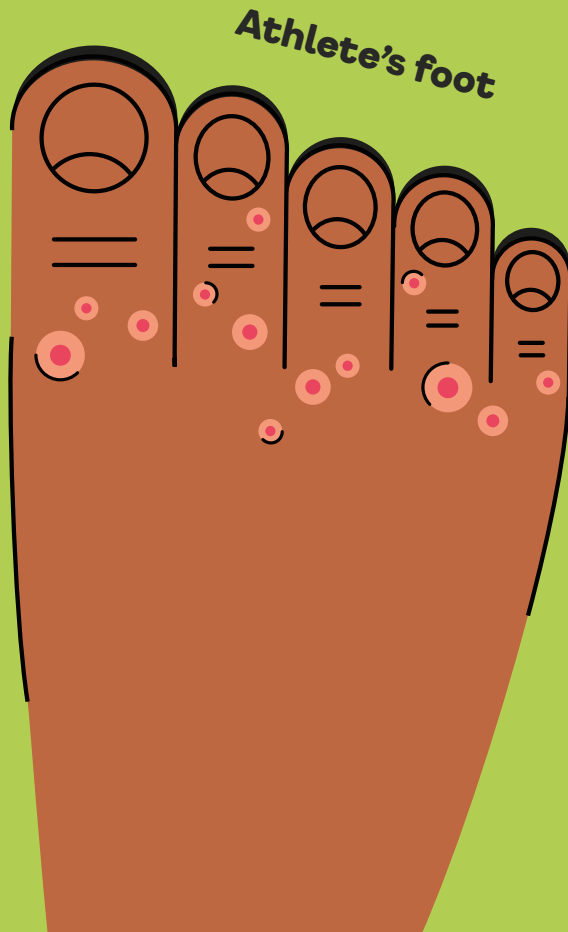
Pharmacy (Chemist)

Pharmacists (or chemists) are healthcare professionals who can give you expert advice on treating minor illnesses and injuries. They can also recommend over-the-counter medicines.

Pharmacists can help with:

- Coughs, colds and sore throats
- Tummy upsets
- Aches and pains
- Earache
- Skin rashes
- Baby teething
- Nappy rash
- Emergency contraception
(not provided by all pharmacies)
- Cystitis - 1-3 days symptomatic





You don't need an appointment to see a pharmacist, and many are open late and at weekends. Most have a consultation room so you can talk to them in private.

If it's needed, they'll recommend seeing your GP. They can also help with questions about medication and make sure you're taking it correctly.

To find your nearest pharmacy and opening hours, go to:

[nhs.uk/find-a-pharmacy](https://www.nhs.uk/find-a-pharmacy)



Dental care

If you have pain in your mouth, teeth or gums, you will need to contact a dentist – your GP practice won't be able to help.

Contact your regular dentist, if you have one. If they're closed, or you do not have a regular dentist, call the **Greater Manchester Urgent Dental Care Service on 0333 332 3800**. Please be aware that this service is very busy so you may need to wait, and they cannot provide routine check-ups.

The service is available from 8am to 10pm every day, including weekends and bank holidays. When you call, you will be assessed by a healthcare professional who can provide self-care advice or book a face-to-face appointment, if needed.

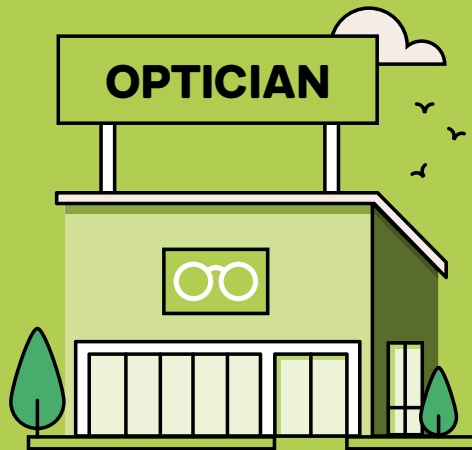


You can access this service in a number of locations across Greater Manchester. Choose the one that is most convenient for you, but it's unlikely to be your regular dental practice.

Did you know, patients are not registered with a dentist in the same way as they are with a GP. So if you need a check-up or dental treatment, you can go to a practice outside your local community.

To find a dental practice, go to:

**[nhs.uk/service-search/
find-a-dentist](https://nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist)**



Optician

You'll find a number of different eyecare professionals at your local opticians (also known as optometrists).

They are all eye experts and are there to help keep your eyes healthy. They can also make sure you have the right glasses or contact lenses, if you need them.

You should have an eye test at least every two years, even if you don't wear glasses. An eye test can help to spot problems or conditions like glaucoma or cataracts earlier.

If you have any problems with your eyes, including the symptoms opposite, you should first contact your regular optician:

- A red or painful eye
- Something in your eye, that won't come out
- Sudden change in vision
- Flashes or things floating across your eyes
(not provided by all opticians)

If your optician is not a part of the Greater Manchester Urgent Eyecare Service, you can find a practice by going to primaryeyecare.co.uk/find-a-practice and entering your postcode.

Painful eye



The service is available throughout the week and from some locations at weekends and evenings. Always call first – this is not a walk-in service.

You will be able to explain your eye problem to the optician. After that, you might be given self-care information, booked in for an appointment, referred to hospital eye services or referred to your GP practice if you need help with other help issues.

To find your nearest opticians, go to:

**[primaryeyecare.co.uk/
find-a-practice](https://primaryeyecare.co.uk/find-a-practice)**



GP Practice

Some illnesses or injuries can be difficult to deal with at home. Or you may feel you need a bit of help after a few days.



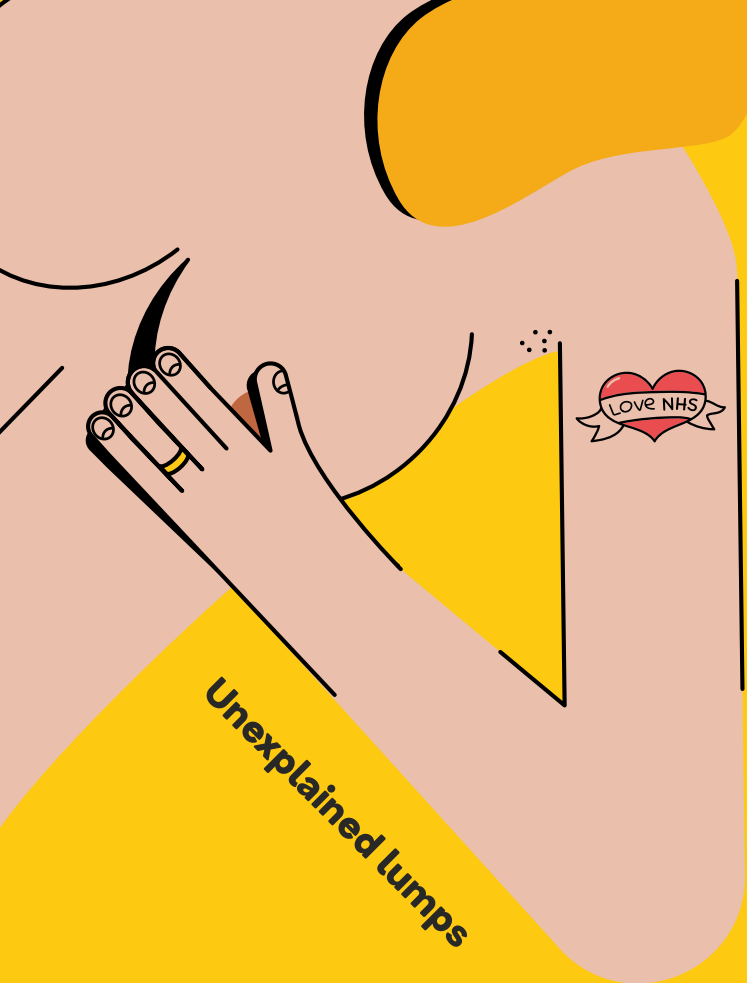
You can see other healthcare professionals at your GP practice, not just doctors or nurses.

Some practices will ask you to fill in a form online. This helps them to see people who are very unwell, and makes sure you see the best person for your needs.

Appointments may be online, on the phone or face-to-face and can be made at evenings and weekends.

Local GP practices work together to offer evening and weekend appointments. This means you can see a GP, nurse or other health professional at a time that's convenient for you. Ask your GP practice for details.





Unexplained lumps

Your GP practice can help with lots of different health issues, including:

- Persistent cough (3 weeks or more)
- Ongoing sore throat (1 week or more)
- Continuing earache (3 days or more)
- Headaches that keep coming back
- Cystitis (water infection) that won't go away (3 days or more)
- A breast lump
- Blood in your wee or poo
- Worries about the menopause
- Feeling low or anxious
- Ongoing or long-term conditions

The **GP out-of-hours service** is there if you need urgent medical care when your GP practice is closed. For details on how to access the service, call your practice and listen to the recorded message.

When you call the service, you may be given advice over the phone or a face-to-face appointment.

Everyone in Greater Manchester can and should register with a GP practice, regardless of housing or immigration status.

Find your nearest GP practice at:
[nhs.uk/service-search/
find-a-gp](https://nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-gp)





Urgent care

Urgent treatment centres or walk-in centres are there if you need urgent medical help that's not serious or life-threatening.

In areas where there is no urgent treatment centre or walk-in centre, there are still local health services there to help.

Conditions that can be treated at an urgent treatment centre or walk-in centre include:



- Sprains and strains
- Suspected broken limbs
- Minor head injuries
- Cuts and grazes
- Bites and stings
- Minor scalds and burns
- Ear and throat infections
- Skin infections and rashes
- Eye problems
- High temperature in children and adults
- Stomach pain
- Emergency contraception

If you're not sure where to go, or to find out if there's an urgent treatment or walk-in centre in your area, visit:

111.nhs.uk or call 111

Sprained limbs





A&E/999

A&E departments (also known as emergency departments or casualty) are there for serious or life-threatening health conditions only.



These conditions include:

- Loss of consciousness
- Sudden confused state
- Fits that are not stopping
- Chest pain
- Breathing difficulties
- Severe bleeding that won't stop
- Severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis)
- Severe burns or scalds
- Major trauma such as a road traffic accident
- Feelings of self-harm or suicide

Call 999 if it is an emergency and someone's life is at risk. This may include:

- A suspected heart attack or stroke
- An overdose
- A serious injury such as a road traffic accident, a serious head injury, a fall from height or a stabbing or shooting

The 999 call advisor will ask you some questions and decide if an ambulance is needed.

All patients are assessed when they arrive at A&E (including those who have come by ambulance) and people with the most serious conditions will be seen first.

If you do need to go to A&E, they will give you an arrival time, which may mean a shorter wait.

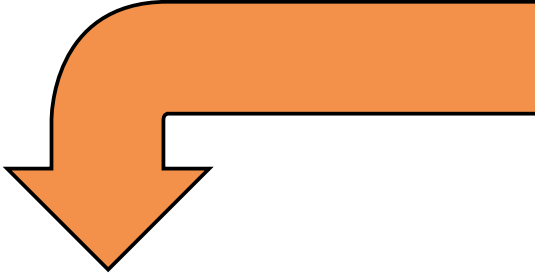
If you're not sure
where to go, visit:

111.nhs.uk online
or call NHS 111





While You Wait



While You Wait is a resource designed to support people with their physical and mental wellbeing while they wait for NHS treatment.

The website has an accessibility toolbar which lets visitors translate the content into over 100 languages, hear the text out loud, use reading aids and change text style.

Search whileyouwait.org.uk



Greater Manchester
Integrated Care

Find the
treatment
you need at
111.nhs.uk
or call 111

