



Feeling under the weather?

Getting help for managing
minor winter ailments.

A quick guide for people aged 60 and above.

Early advice is the best advice.



Cold and wintry conditions can cause misery. The cold air can make it more difficult to breathe, and minor ailments like sore throats, bad coughs, colds and flu are more common during the winter months.

If you're over 60 and feeling under the weather, tell your friends, family or carer as soon as possible, and get advice from your local pharmacist before it gets worse.

Get help, stay healthy.

When you're a bit older, minor winter ailments can become more serious and could lead to you being admitted to hospital for treatment. Getting advice when you start to feel unwell can help you avoid becoming seriously ill.

It's not easy for everyone to ask for help. Seeing someone like a pharmacist with minor ailments such as colds and sore throats can feel like you're wasting their time, but you're not – they want to help! The quicker you get help, the quicker you'll recover and be able to get your life back to normal.

Friends, family and carers.

You're not alone. Ask your friends, family and carer for help. Tell them if you're feeling under the weather. They may not be able to offer health advice but they can help you get it.

Your local pharmacist.

More and more people are visiting their local pharmacist to get help. They are a highly trained and trusted source of health advice. You should visit one as soon as you start to feel unwell. It's what pharmacists are there for.

Your local pharmacist can:

- give you expert advice to help prevent conditions such as a bad cough, trouble breathing, cold, or a sore throat from getting worse
- help you manage a long term condition, if you have one
- offer longer opening hours than your GP surgery and see you without an appointment
- provide a consultation area to speak privately so other people can't hear
- tell you if you need to see your GP.

If you can't make it to the pharmacist for advice, ask your friends, family or carer to pop in for you.

