

Help with health costs

Frequent hospital appointments, prescriptions, dental work etc. can have a financial cost. If you are struggling to meet these travel costs you might be entitled to some help.

If you receive

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment Support Allowance
- Pension credit guarantee credit
- Universal credit (and meet certain eligibility criteria – see here <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/help-with-health-costs/help-with-health-costs-for-people-getting-universal-credit/#criteria>)
- Named on a valid NHS Tax Credit Exemption Certificate (or on your award it shows that you have an income of £15276 or less)

You are entitled to free prescriptions, free dental care, free eye care, refund of hospital travel costs and wigs / fabric supports. For travel costs you need to take to your appointment proof of the benefit and proof of your appointment, this is then normally claimed at the cashier's desk. For more information go to

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcosts/Pages/Travelcosts.aspx>

If you do not receive any of these benefits but are on a low income you may be able to apply for help through the NHS Low Income Scheme. You need to complete a HC1 form

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcosts/Documents/2016/HC1-April-2016.pdf>

This is then assessed and you will be provided with a certificate to provide full help or partial help.

If you do need to pay for prescriptions it may save you money to get a Prescription Prepayment Certificate, for more information see

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcosts/Pages/PPC.aspx>

There are also some health conditions that may entitle you to free prescriptions that you may have alongside Gaucher Disease. See list here under medical exemptions

<http://www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcosts/Pages/Prescriptioncosts.aspx>

If you need any support with this please contact our Patient and Family Support Worker.