

## **Press Release**

## Information on GP Appointments and Pharmacy Opening Times over Christmas and the New Year

## **Tuesday, 19 January**

Local people are being urged to give their medicine cabinet an early Christmas present and stock it up with some festive essentials by Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

It is also reminding people to check they have enough medication on their prescriptions to last them over the festive season.

If people do need medical help this Christmas there will be GP services available 24/7 across Shropshire this Christmas and New Year through the Urgent Care Centre and Out of Hours Service.

The Urgent Care Centre, based alongside the A&E at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, has already drafted in extra staff for the public holidays and Shropdoc has finalised its rota for GP out of hours calls over the Christmas and New Year break.

These will provide cover for the CCG's 43 GP practices which will be closed this year on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year's Day.

This festive season the Urgent Care Centre is open every day from 8am to 8pm for anyone who needs urgent medical attention if they cannot get an appointment with their own doctor or are not registered with a GP practice. No appointment is necessary.

The Urgent Care Centre can help with a whole range of symptoms including children with high temperatures, anyone with breathing problems, severe headaches, abdominal pain and painful infections through to mild injuries and burns.

For GP out of hours care, Shropdoc has confirmed that it has cover right through the festive season for anyone who needs urgent medical attention that cannot wait until their own surgery is next open.

Shropdoc can be contacted on 0333 222 6655.

Local pharmacists are covering the festive season on a rota and they can offer professional advice without an appointment. The Shropshire Pharmacy Opening Times for Christmas 2017 and the New Year 2018 Bank Holidays are

	Monday 25 Dec	Tuesday 26 Dec	Monday 1 Jan
BRIDGNORTH			
Bridgnorth Pharmacy, Mill Street, WV15 5AL	11am – 12noon	CLOSED	CLOSED
Boots, 30-31 High Street, WV16 4DB	CLOSED	10am – 4pm	10am – 4pm
LUDLOW			
Lloyds Pharmacy, 116-119 lower Galdeford, SY8 1RU	11am – 12noon	CLOSED	CLOSED
Boots, 34 Bull Ring, SY8 1AB	CLOSED	11am – 3pm	11am - 12noon
MARKET DRAYTON			
Boots, 48-50 Cheshire Street, TF9 1PR	11am – 12noon	10am – 4pm	10am – 4pm
OSWESTRY			
Station Pharmacy, The Old Station Building, SY11 1RB	12noon – 1pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Boots, 5-7 Church Hill, SY11 2SU	CLOSED	10am - 4pm	10am - 4pm
SHREWSBURY		•	
Rhodes Pharmacy, 28 Claremont Road,SY1 1RD	12noon – 1pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Jhoots Pharmacy, 53 Riverside Shopping Centre, SY1 1PH	7pm – 8pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Asda, Old Potts Way, SY3 7ET	CLOSED	9am – 6pm	10am - 6pm
Boots, Pride Hill	CLOSED	8.30am- 5.30pm	CLOSED
Boots, Meole Brace Retail Park, SY3 9NB	CLOSED	9am - 1.30pm 2.30pm – 6pm	9am - 1.30pm 2.30pm – 6pm
Lloyds Pharmacy, Sainsbury's, Meole Brace Retail Park, SY3 9NB	CLOSED	9am – 7pm	9am – 5pm
WHITCHURCH			
Rowlands, 11 High Street, SY13 1AX	11am - 12noon	CLOSED	CLOSED
Boots, 10-12 Watergate Street, SY13 1DW	CLOSED	CLOSED	11am - 12noon
Green End Pharmacy, 11-13 Green End, SY13 1AD	CLOSED	11am – 12noon	CLOSED

Help is also on hand at the touch of a button from NHS Choices at <a href="www.nhs.uk">www.nhs.uk</a>, which has a useful Health A-Z guide listing conditions and their treatments.

NHS111 is also free to call from any landline or mobile and is open 24/7.

Dr Julian Povey, Chair of Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "Through Christmas and the New Year 100% of the Shropshire population has access to GP services via the GP out of hours service or the Urgent Care Centre.

"We are also asking people to check their prescription medicines and make sure they have enough for the Christmas break.

"When people are out and about Christmas shopping it's also a good idea to make sure they have the essentials in their medicine cabinet including some paracetamol, ibuprofen and aspirin, as well as remedies for upset stomachs which should be purchased over the counter.

"If you do fall ill at Christmas don't leave it to get worse. There are plenty of places to get advice including your local pharmacist and information right at your fingertips from the NHS."

## **Ends**

For more information please contact: Andrea Harper, Head of Communications and Engagement NHS Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group Telephone: 01743 277500 ext 2142

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If you have an urgent media call outside normal office hours please call 01743 454907 and ask to be put through to the CCG director on call