

Q AND A ON PRESCRIPTION CHARGES – FEBRUARY 2011

What will I now pay for prescriptions?

All prescriptions dispensed in Northern Ireland are now free of charge. This includes medication, wigs and surgical appliances.

Will I need to pay for a wig or surgical appliance?

No. Health Service wigs and appliances are also free.

Will I have to pay if I need to get a Northern Ireland prescription dispensed when I am in England, Wales or Scotland?

No, you will not have to pay to get a Northern Ireland prescription dispensed in England, Wales or Scotland.

Do I still need a war pension certificate?

Yes, but only for claiming other benefits such as travelling expenses.

Do I still need a maternity exemption certificate?

Yes, but only for claiming free dental treatment.

Do visitors from England, Wales or Scotland have to pay for prescriptions when in Northern Ireland?

No, all UK prescriptions will be dispensed free of charge at pharmacies in Northern Ireland.

Will people from the Republic of Ireland have to pay when in Northern Ireland?

A prescription issued in the Republic of Ireland is treated as a private prescription and a fee will be charged by the pharmacist in Northern Ireland. If the person has been treated by a Northern Ireland GP and issued with a Health Service prescription they will not pay a charge.

For any other queries please contact the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (DHSSPS). The address is:

**Pharmacy and Prescribing Branch
Room D3, Castle Buildings
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