

## Receiving paracetamol on prescription

West Leicestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) does not support the prescribing of paracetamol for treatment of mild to moderate short term pain and other common ailments in children and adults. The conditions listed below are examples of when paracetamol should be purchased by or for the patient.

This list is not exhaustive.

Headaches/migraines

Earache

Colds

Fever

Toothache

Cuts

Teething

Sinus pain congestion

Aches and pains

Sprains and strains

Sore throat

Period pain

Bruising

The reasons for this are:

- This will save on GP appointment time and allow them to deal with more urgent problems.
- Community Pharmacists are best placed to help and advise the public regarding suitable treatments for minor ailments.
- Paracetamol is approximately four times more expensive when prescribed on the NHS compared to when it is purchased in pharmacies or supermarkets.
- Paracetamol is widely available from all supermarkets and pharmacies at a very low cost.
- Patients can keep a small supply of paracetamol in their medicine cabinet at home so that they are able to manage their minor ailments at home.
- The NHS belongs to everybody and the CCG must ensure that its resources are used in the best possible way for all patients.