

April 2019



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**Hello,**

Hunting for chocolate eggs is a staple of the Easter festivities. Hunting for a pharmacy isn't.

To save people the aggravation of needing to search far and wide for a place to pick up urgent medication or to receive advice for minor conditions, we've made it easier than ever before to know what's open and when this Easter.

Take a look below to find out which pharmacies will be open on Good Friday (19 April), Easter Sunday (22 April) and Easter Monday (23 April).

<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>Easter Monday</b>
Asda Pharmacy – Orbital Shopping Park (9am – 6pm)	Facechoice Pharmacy – Freshbrook Village Centre (2pm – 6pm)	Asda Pharmacy – Orbital Shopping Park (9am – 6pm)
Asda Pharmacy – West Swindon District Centre (9am – 6pm)	Hawthorn Pharmacy – 261 Cricklade Road (12pm – 4pm)	Asda Pharmacy – West Swindon District Centre (9am – 6pm)
Boots Pharmacy – Orbital Shopping Park (8.30am – 9pm)	Sparcells Pharmacy – Midwinter Close, Peatmoor (10am – 2pm)	Boots Pharmacy – Orbital Shopping Park (8.30am – 6pm)
Boots Pharmacy – Greenbridge Retail Park (8.30am – 8pm)		Boots Pharmacy – Greenbridge Retail Park (8.30am – 6pm)
Boots Pharmacy – Brunel Shopping Centre (8am – 7pm)		Boots Pharmacy – Brunel Shopping Centre (10am – 5pm)
Morrisons Pharmacy – Thames Avenue (10am – 4pm)		Morrisons Pharmacy – Thames Avenue (10am – 4pm)
Tesco Pharmacy – Ocotal Way (12pm – 4pm)		Tesco Pharmacy – Ocotal Way (12pm – 4pm)

Most pharmacies will open according to their usual Saturday hours on Saturday 20 April.

Using a pharmacy is a great first port of call for most minor injuries and illnesses, but if you or someone you know develops a more pressing medical concern, it's reassuring to know that the Urgent Care Centre at the Great Western Hospital and the Walk-in Centre at the Swindon NHS Health Centre will both be open as normal.

Before we sign off and wish you a very happy Easter, we'd like to say a public thank you to all the NHS staff in Swindon and across the country who will be working over the long weekend – we couldn't be more grateful for the amazing work they do.

**Until next time, stay healthy and happy!**

## Free course puts the brakes on type 2 diabetes... before it even begins

Health experts reckon that up to 20,000 people in Swindon could be at risk of developing type 2 diabetes due to a poor diet and lack of exercise.

A free course is now being offered to help those on the verge of becoming diabetic to retake control of their health and wellbeing.

Designed to get people moving and eating better, the Healthier You: Diabetes Prevention Programme supports individuals over a nine-month period to reverse the early symptoms of diabetes.

More than 1,500 people have so far been invited to take part in the course, but anybody concerned about their lifestyle can get more information on how to join by chatting to their GP.



## Because nobody seems to be talking about it...

Ahead of the UK's departure from the European Union, the CCG has published a list of frequently asked questions to help people stay informed of the possible impact Brexit could have on the NHS.

The questions, which have been compiled by NHS England, cover a wide range of hot topics, including the plans currently in place to minimise disruption to the flow of medicines coming to the UK from the EU.

The full list of FAQs can be seen by [clicking here](#).



## The NHS in Swindon is changing

Healthwatch Swindon has launch its What Would You Do campaign to gather feedback from the public on ways to improve NHS services in the local community.

The group, which champions people's views on local healthcare, wants to know how the NHS can help people to live healthier lives, what would make services better and how care for people with long term conditions could be improved.

An online survey to capture feedback has been set up and can be found by [clicking here](#).



## Wiltshire recruits wanted for national Patient and Public Voice Forum

People in Wiltshire are being encouraged to join NHS England's Patient and Public Voice Forum.

As a member, people will be asked for their view on national health policies and for ways they think services can be improved for others.

This specific recruitment drive comes as the Forum looks to dissect the NHS Cancer Programme, a strategy which aims to improve quality of life for people living with the disease.

Anybody wishing to get involved with this important piece of work can find out more by [clicking here](#).



## University of the Third Age seeks new students

Older people in Swindon looking to dispel the boredom of later life are encouraged to relive their student days by joining the University of the Third Age.

With more than 170 groups offering everything from badminton and bowls to gardening and guitar playing, the U3A is a unique opportunity for older people to not only learn a new skill, but to socialise and make new friends.

To find out more, [click here](#).



## For your information and interest

- Nominations for the NHS Parliamentary Awards 2019 are now being taken so if you know an individual or team who has gone above and beyond in providing an outstanding NHS service, let your local MP know.

More information about the awards can be found by [clicking here](#).

- If you feel your experience of the healthcare could be put to good use, get in touch with the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), which is always looking for new patients to help develop upcoming guidance, standards and advice.

Find out more by [clicking here](#).

- The next meeting of the Swindon Eye Health Patient Reference Group will be held on Friday 17 May in Seminar Room 6 of the Academy at the Great Western Hospital.

## Governing Body

The next meeting of Swindon CCG's Governing Body will take place on Thursday 25 April.

Minutes and papers of previous meetings can be found by [clicking here](#).

If you would like to attend, please send an email to [communications@swindonccg.nhs.uk](mailto:communications@swindonccg.nhs.uk).

## Contact details for the Communications and Engagement Team

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