

## Stockbridge Practice News – August 2025

### Eye problems

If you are experiencing an eye problem such as a stye or conjunctivitis you can be seen by a local optician participating in the Minor Eye Conditions Service (MECS).



Here is the website where you can search for local opticians:

<https://primaryeyecare.co.uk/services/minor-eye-conditions-service>.

Currently Rawlings in Stockbridge and Winchester, Specsavers in Andover and several opticians in Romsey and Salisbury offer the service. Please call the optician first to book an appointment. You can also call the National Triage Service on 0300 303 4922.

### HRT Prepayment Certificate

Patients who are prescribed certain types of HRT medication can apply for a prepayment certificate to cover the prescription charges. This works out considerably cheaper. It currently costs £19.80 for 12 months and is available to buy online. For help and support please call the NHS Business Services Authority on 0300 330 2089 or visit <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk>.

### Weight loss drugs

You may have seen on the news that weight loss injections will be available from the NHS from 23 June 2025. Services are currently being set up locally but are not anticipated to be available until the Autumn.

Once this service does become available, it will be for patients over 18, with a BMI of 40+, (or 37.5+ if you're from a Black, Asian or other minority ethnic background) and have four or more weight-related health conditions, such as Type II diabetes, hypertension and heart disease. For more information, please visit: <https://www.hantsiow.icb.nhs.uk/weight-loss-support>