

ommendations cannot be clear cut. It may be reasonable to offer antiviral therapy to patients with severe pain early on to ameliorate acute symptoms not controlled with analgesics, or to patients considered to be at higher risk of postherpetic neuralgia on the basis of age. Patients with ophthalmic zoster should receive treatment to reduce the risk of ocular complications. Patients with zoster in other dermatomes, or who are at low risk of postherpetic neuralgia because of younger age might justifiably be treated conservatively.

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Corrigendum – community pharmacy (letter)

In the letter by Steven Ford (Community pharmacy, *Br J Gen Pract* 1994; **44**: 534-535) the reference to the quote in the second paragraph 'Pharmacy distribution of medicines costs up to 30-40% of the total medicines bill. Should the public really be paying this amount?' should have been to:

Brown P. Are pharmacists necessary? *Scrip* 1994; May: 3-4.