

Helping you to understand your Scots patients.

Phrases useful for doctors not acquainted with the Scots language , its dialects and turns of phrase

Please Listen to the accompanying pronunciation and listening aid.

The correct Scots spelling is not guaranteed

Wee	small
Muckle	Large or many
A muckle hoose	A large house
Braw	Good
Fit like?	Hello , how are you?

Used in the NE. Doric dialect of Scots

The polis	The police
Ah dae ken	I don't know
Ah Dinnae ken	I don't know

The bairn's nae weel doactor The child is not well doctor

The wean's hingy doactor The child is really ill doctor

(Used in Leith) Usually feverish , difficult to rouse,
lifeless

The bairn's peely wally doac The child is not himself. He is quite
Weak and not well

The bairn has a glee ee. The child has a squint.

Ah'm pechin fur breath evry nicht. I'm struggling for breath every night.

Ah need fower pillows tae prop me up. I need four pillows to prop me up

Ah'm sure thoon wean's bein' battered. I am sure that child is being seriously
physically abused.

Ah'm goin tae report them tae the social. I am going to report them to the
Social Work Department.

Yoan hoose is mingin. That house is a disgusting smelly
mess.

The bairn's heid is lowpin The child's head is full of lice

Ah've missed ma usuals doac? I've missed my period doctor

Ah'm up the duff doac? I'm pregnant doctor.

Ah've no had ma benefits I've not received my benefits.

Ah'm pure done in doac I'm utterly exhausted doctor.

Ah'm awfy whabbit these days I'm very tired these days

Ma man's had his jotters My husband has lost his job

Ah think he's deein doac. I think he is dying doctor

Ah think he might be deid. I think he might be dead

Can ye naw dae sommit doac? Can you not do something doctor?

Ah've been geein the bairn ginger I've been giving the child juice doctor to

Doac tae help wi' the skitters help with the diarrhoea.

Ginger= juice in Glasgow

Ah've been oan the cludgey all nicht I've been on the toilet all night.

Ah've got the dry boak doactor I'm retching (coughing /vomiting)

Unproductively

There's puss comin' frae ma boaby I've got puss coming from my penis

Come doon the close doac. Its dairk sa' dinnae trip oan the cundy. It's tap is shoogly, and cam up the stair. stair.

Come down the alley way doc. It's dark so don't trip on the drain. It's cover is loose, and come up the

Wheesht man!

Be quiet.

Thoan's braw man

That's good sir.

How? How no?

Why? Why not? (Scottish Borders)

Fit wye?

Why? NE Doric

Fit for ?

Why? What for?

Ah'll batter you!

I am going to beat you up

Ah cannae pish like ah yest tae doac.

I can't pass urine like I used to doc

Whit are ye bletherin about doac?

What are you talking about doctor?

Ma heed's bustin doac!

I've got a severe headache!

Ah've been pukin aw nicht doac.

I've been vomiting all night doc.

Ah cannae swallae doac.

I can't swallow doctor

We're naw married doac. She's **ma biddie in**. We are not married doc

She's

My partner and we live together

Ma mither's fawn doon the stairs. She's

My mother has fallen down the

Banged her heid aff **the flair**. There's an awfy

stairs and banged her head on

Load o' blud comin ' frae her lugs

the floor. There is a lot of blood

Comin from her ears

She's gone fur the messages.

She has gone out to do some

Food shopping.

Loon A young man in Aberdeenshire
Quine A young lady in Aberdeenshire

A lad or laddie A young man in most of
Scotland

A lass /lassie A young girl in most of
Scotland

The kirk The Church

The Meenister The Church minister or pastor

Ah cannae hear oot ma lugs I cannot hear , out my ears.

Ma gammis ar stoonin doac I've got severe stabbing pain

In my teeth doctor

Ah've lost ma wallies I've lost my false teeth

Ah'm seein twae av ye oot ma e'en I'm seeing two of you out my eyes

Mah hairt's awfy sair doc. My heart is very sore

Ma jaiket is oan a shoogly peg My job (or my life) is very

Precarious. I might be losing

My job (or dying)

Ah've got hunners o' plukes oan ma hurdies doac I've got a lot of boils on my
Buttocks doctor

She's fallen oan her bahoochie(erse less polite) She's fallen on her bum

Thoan doactor couldnae cure a plouk on That doctor is useless.

A coo's neb Literally :He couldn't cure an
Abscess on a cow's nose.

Mah chist is sair doac. My chest is sore doctor

Away an bile yer heed

Get lost

Thoan wuman's an eejit

That woman is stupid

Mah baws are sair doac

My testicles are painful

Doctor.

Ma man comes hame evry Friday nicht

My husband comes home

Blooterred (or pished) and batters me yisless

Every Friday night

And severely beats me up

Ah flitted hoose away frae thoan man o' mine

I moved house away

From that husband of mine

For interest: Jag flyttade hus is

"I moved house" in Swedish

Ah'm switherin atween goin' tae the flicks

I can't decide between going

Oar ta'in the dug (doag) fur a walk

to the cinema or taking the

Dog for a walk

Gonnae naw dae that

Please don't do that.

