

## Home Visits

We are unable to guarantee a specific doctor will visit you as this depends on availability and other factors. The decision to home visit will be at the doctors' discretion.

## Out of Hours Emergencies

We will do everything possible to ensure that our system for contact the duty doctor is easy to follow, reliable and effective.

## Waiting Times

- Surgeries will normally start on time.
- We expect patients to be seen within 20 minutes of their appointment time, and in the event of a delay we will offer an explanation.
- When a doctor is called away on an emergency we will inform the patients and give them an appointment to book an alternative appointment if preferred, to be seen by another doctor.

## With these rights come responsibilities for the patients

- Courtesy to the staff at all times—remember they are working under doctor's orders.
- Responding in a positive way to questions asked by the reception staff.
- To attend appointments on time or to give the practice adequate notice that they wish to cancel. Someone else could use your appointment!
- An appointment is for ONE person only—where another member of the family needs to be seen or discussed, another appointment should be made.
- Patients should make every effort when consulting the surgery to make the best use of nursing and medical time—home visits should be medically justifiable and not requested for social convenience.
- When patients are asked to give 48 hours notice for repeat prescriptions please give us this time as it is to allow for accurate prescribing.
- Out-of-hours (eg evenings, nights and weekends) should be requested if they are felt to be truly necessary.



**CUMBERLAND HOUSE**

**PRIMARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE**



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# Patient's Charter

All members of the surgery Primary Health Care Team are dedicated to a Quality Policy to achieve Health Services which meet the patient's requirements.

### **Practice Leaflet**

All new patients will receive a copy of our practice leaflet and copies will be displayed at the reception desk.

### **Surgery Premises**

Our surgery building will be welcoming, easy for patients to find their way around and appropriate to the needs of users, including the disabled.

### **Patient's Rights to General Medical Services**

Patients have the rights to:

- Be registered with a General Practitioner.
- Change Doctor if desired.
- Be offered a health check on joining the practice
- Receive urgent care at between 8am-6.30pm—Monday to Friday.
- Receive appropriate drugs and medicines.

- Be referred for specialist or second opinion if they and the GP agree.
- Have the right to view their medical records, subject to the Acts and associated procedure, and to know that those working for the NHS are under legal obligation to keep the contents confidential.

### **Changes to Procedures**

When changes are introduced to practice procedures that affect patients, we will ensure that these are clearly explained, by means of a brochure; waiting room notice board or individual leaflets, giving as much notice as practicable.

### **Repeat Prescriptions**

To ensure the best possible knowledge of your personal health, these will be signed by your usual GP wherever possible.

### **Referrals**

Urgent referrals to other health and social care agencies will be made within one working day of the patient consultation. Where requested, our GPs will refer you to a private health provider.

We will normal process non-urgent referrals within four days of the patient consultation or the doctor's decision to refer.

Urgent referrals will be processed on the same day.

### **Test Results**

When a doctor or nurse arranges for a test to be taken the patient will be informed how to obtain the result (most results are available within two working days).

### **Transfer of Medical Records**

The Practice will endeavour to dispatch any medical required by the Health Authority with 7 working days and the same day if the request is urgent.

### **Privacy and Confidentiality**

We will respect our patients' privacy, dignity and confidentiality at all times.

### **Appointments**

#### **With a Doctor**

For routine consultations we will endeavour to offer patients an appointment within two working days of the request. For medically urgent requests, we will offer an appointment on the same day.

#### **With a Practice Nurse**

Four routine appointments we will endeavour to offer an appointment within five working days.