

Important Updates – 1st November 2023

Welcoming a new GP

We are delighted to announce that Dr Matthew Dunne will be joining the surgery from next Tuesday. Patients previously assigned to Dr Allen will be assigned to Dr Dunne.

Separately, Dr Kodde has now left the practice and will only be undertaking occasional locum shifts. Patients previously assigned to Dr Kodde have been assigned to either Dr Mogford, Dr Buchanan or Dr Hughes.

Whoever your assigned GP is, please be assured that whilst it is not always possible to see or speak to them, our team of doctors remain committed to seeing patients for urgent appointments and work together to provide ongoing patient care across the community.

Prospective access to medical records

As your GP practice, we have been asked to provide you with access to your full prospective medical records via the NHS app (and NHS website), if you have a suitable NHS login.

Unfortunately, this is more complex than it may at first seem and the Practice has looked carefully at the safety and data protection issues as we are sure *YOU* would wish to make an informed decision. Taking this into consideration, we have decided to ask your permission first, as this gives us a chance to check your understanding and be sure access to your data is safe for you.

We are aware that not everyone will want access to their full record on the internet at this time, and some patients may have concerns about their personal medical records being made available on their smartphones or online, especially if other people have access to their devices.

If you know you will **NOT** want access, please email ciosicb.obsfuturerecordaccess@nhs.net with your name, date of birth and type '**DECLINE ACCESS**'. You can change your mind at any time by contacting the practice.

Further information for how to seek access and/or sign-up, please [click here](#) to download and print the prospective access form. You will need to attend the surgery showing **two forms of ID** (one photo ID and proof of residence) and sign the form in front of a staff member. If you are unable to print the form at home, please ask for one at reception.

Should you wish to sign-up to access your records, you will be added to a waiting list which we will work through as quickly as we can. Your patience is however greatly appreciated, especially as we head into our busiest period with winter viruses and covid circulating.

If you already have access to your online records, no further action needs to be taken, although you may experience a short delay whilst an upgrade takes place.

Prescription saving schemes

A Prescription Prepayment Certificate will save people money if they pay for more than three items in three months, or 11 items in 12 months.

People on a low income could be entitled to help with costs or free prescriptions through the low-income scheme, depending on their circumstances. For further information about eligibility and how to apply [click here](#).

Finally, we look forward to welcoming Dr Dunne to the team and the community and thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind regards,

GP Partners
Old Bridge Surgery