

Newsletter



NWL GP Federation
Working together for our patients

April 2024

Have you heard about Pharmacy First?

From soothing an earache, or treating a UTI, your local pharmacist can now provide medicines for the conditions, if necessary - all without the need for a GP appointment or prescription.

Sinusitis
Sore throat
Earache
Infected insect bite
Impetigo
Shingles
Uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women

For further information, visit nhs.uk/pharmacyfirst

Watch this space - our new website is coming soon!



We need your help!
Can you spare a few minutes to fill out our Friends and Family feedback survey? Just click on the link in the text message which you receive following on from your appointment.
Thank you!

We're making healthcare even more accessible! Feel free to **pre-book** a phone consultation between 6:30pm-8pm, Monday to Friday. Choose from a GP, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, or Clinical Pharmacist and get the help you need.

But wait, there's more! Every Saturday, from 9am-5pm (alternating between Long Lane Surgery (Coalville) and Castle Medical Group (Ashby De La Zouch) we're offering in-person **pre-booked** appointments for routine consultations. Whether its a minor illness, a menopause consultation, ear syringing, cervical smears or a dressing change, we've got you covered.

We know life can get in the way of taking care of yourself, so these options are here for those who need a little flexibility.

To book into one of these appointments, please contact your GP practice.

A day in the life of a Paramedic at North West Leicestershire GP Federation....

We currently have 8 Paramedic Practitioners employed by NWL PCN that work across the 12 practices. With many more agency Paramedics also working across our area, it is very likely that you will meet one of the Paramedic team if visiting your GP Practice for an acute problem. We all have a background of working as a Paramedic within the ambulance service but have since completed further training to enable us to use our skills within Primary Care.

Our day generally consists of acute, on-the-day problems which is mostly managed via face-to-face appointments. We can manage patients from a range of ages from small children to older adults and end of life. Typically, the patients that we see present with a new onset of a symptom such as a cough, breathlessness, chest pains, earache, stomach pain, suspected infections and many more symptoms. We are then able to conduct a history taking of the symptoms, gather past medical history, conduct a clinical examination and then form a management plan which may consist of providing advice, prescriptions, referrals or imaging if appropriate.

We are also a developing workforce, with several Paramedics qualified to prescribe medication and many more undertaking their prescribing qualification currently, we are able to manage most simple acute problems autonomously. We are all pursuing further training in more advanced clinical practice which is a standard set by Health Education England for all Paramedics in Primary Care. Therefore, the conditions and patients we manage will grow in complexity as we complete the extra learning and qualifications needed. Sometimes there will be a patient that is more complex, may be presenting with something out of our scope of practice or we feel a second opinion is needed.

For these more complex issues, we each have access to a duty doctor that will be able to provide us with assistance, they may discuss a medication or treatment suitable, or they may review the patient themselves also.

Due to the nature of the patients we see, there are often plenty of appointments available each day for a Paramedic Practitioner. This generally means that on-the-day appointments are more accessible for those who are acutely unwell than prior to Paramedic's working in Primary Care. This also leaves more appointments available for complex or chronic issues to be managed by the General Practitioner or Advanced Clinicians within the practice.



Jessie Walker
Senior Paramedic NWL PCN

Covid Vaccinations

Spring 2024



Are you aged over 75 and/or immunosuppressed?

Our Covid vaccination hubs will be open from from mid April - end of June to all North West Leicestershire patients (subject to criteria) on Saturdays, alternating between Long Lane Surgery (Coalville) or Castle Medical Group (Ashby De La Zouch)

Contact your GP surgery to book an appointment

Psst! Want to know all the hip and happening events in the local area? Then join our social media squad! Keep tabs on our Facebook page at [North West Leicestershire GP Federation](#) and our X page (formerly known as Twitter) at [@nwlgpfed](#).



Cervical Screening

Cervical screening is one of the best ways to protect yourself from cervical cancer. It is not a test for cancer, it's a test to help prevent it.

It's your choice if you want to attend a cervical screening appointment, but it is one of the best ways to protect yourself from cervical cancer.

All women and people with a cervix between the ages of 25 and 64 are invited to make an appointment.

If you have never had cervical screening, are over-due and have any queries/concerns do not hesitate to get in touch with us on 01530 831645.



To book an appointment for cervical screening, please contact your GP practice.

We have appointments available at weekends at a time to suit you, at either of our enhanced access hubs at Long Lane Surgery (Coalville) or Castle Medical Group (Ashby De La Zouch)

