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Practice Website

To Register

2026

STUDENT INFORMATION

Your NHS Practice - what can you expect from the College Doctors?

- We are an NHS General Practice offering NHS care (free at the point of care). We are highly qualified professional General Practitioners (GP) who provide a confidential service. We treat patients with respect and involve them in making decisions about their own care. We have special interests in students and in our colleges (and University procedures). We are very experienced in treating student health problems, both physical and mental, and we provide certificates for adjustments or mitigation – for further information see the practice website. We are also a training practice for qualified doctors and medical students.
- We are open 8.00am-6.30pm, Monday to Friday, and we offer some appointments during extended hours on Thursday evenings and on some Saturday mornings.

What to do when you are ill

- Please look after yourself by keeping a small stock of home remedies such as paracetamol.
- The College Nurse is usually the best first person to help you decide what to do when you are ill and to support you getting what you need. She is highly trained, works in College, and knows the NHS and College.
- Pharmacists are a good source of advice, or you can phone 111 (24 hours free phone number).
- If you are sure you need to see a GP **call us on 01865 311234**. If you are unwell outside of normal working hours, **call 111** and if needed you will be able to consult a local on-call GP.
- **DO NOT** go straight to the hospital Accident & Emergency Service unless you are likely to need hospital admission, an X-ray or stitches for a wound. You can phone 111 to help you decide whether to go to A & E.
- For serious emergencies needing an ambulance, phone 999

Appointments

- We offer telephone and in-person appointments. We can also offer appointments by video where needed. We also offer an online consultation service called Accurx which is accessed via the practice website.
- To make an appointment, ring the Health Centre on 01865 311234 between 8.00am and 6.30pm.
- If the problem is medically urgent you can speak to a doctor the same day.
- For routine problems, appointments are usually available within a few days. At peak times, routine appointments may take longer, especially if you wish to speak to a specific doctor.
- Please be patient because the GPs may run late with their appointments or have other calls to make. Please keep your mobile switched on and be aware whether you have a signal. If you do not have a working mobile phone with a UK number, please consider borrowing a phone from a friend for us to call you.
- Please accept that the receptionists may need to ask you about the nature of the problem in order to help you effectively; they may suggest you consult the practice physio, nurse, pharmacist or other service if appropriate.
- If an appointment is no longer needed or if you are unable to attend, please let us know. If you fail to cancel an appointment, another patient will miss out.
- Home visits are possible if the doctor agrees that the patient is too ill to be moved and needs to be examined. Visits may be carried out by a GP from the Practice or by a Doctor, Nurse or Paramedic from the Oxford City Home Visiting Service. These requests should be received as early as possible. It may be useful to ask a friend or welfare rep for help (to escort the person to your room, or to collect a prescription later).

Repeat Prescriptions

- New students who are already on prescribed medication should come to Oxford with at least a month's supply. During that month, they should make a routine appointment with a GP to re-assess the condition and the need for on-going treatment. Repeat prescriptions can then be authorised.

- Repeat prescriptions can be requested online using the NHS App or via our website. Telephone requests are not normally accepted unless you need this due to a disability. Prescriptions are sent electronically to any pharmacy of your choice in England.
- Prescriptions cost £9.90 per item; or a prepayment certificate costing £32.05 covers all prescriptions for three months, or £114.50 for 12 months- see <https://services.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/buy-prescription-prepayment-certificate/start> .

Routine Screening

- Cervical cytology ('smear' or 'pap' test) is available on the NHS for women aged 25-65. In the UK, smears are carried out every 5 years for 25-60 year olds or more often if there has been a problem. It is important that you tell us if you have had a test done abroad so we can determine the correct recall date.

Vaccinations

- Routine UK vaccinations (such as Meningitis ACWY, MMR, HPV or tetanus) are covered by the NHS. If required, please book an appointment with the practice nurse. Flu vaccine can be given on the NHS to those who are eligible due to certain medical conditions (e.g. diabetes).
- If you require vaccinations for travel, please submit a travel form via our website well before your date of travel. We provide vaccinations which are free on the NHS (Hep A, Typhoid, Tetanus & Cholera). Other travel vaccinations should be sourced from a travel clinic or pharmacy.

Counselling

- The University funds an excellent, free of charge, confidential counselling service for students. Appointments are usually available in about a week (including outside term). See www.ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/counselling
- NHS counselling (self-referral) has longer waiting lists. See <https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/oxon-talking-therapies/>
- Support is also available from our MIND Wellbeing Support Worker and our Specialist Mental Health Practitioner who are based in the practice.

Referrals

- Most hospital appointments need a GP referral. NHS referrals are prioritised on medical need, but routine clinics often have long waiting lists, with further waits for scans or operations if needed. Those with private medical insurance may be able to see a specialist much quicker. Urgent hospital referrals (such as for suspected cancers) take about two weeks on the NHS, or sometimes longer.
- Hospital appointments for routine NHS referrals must go through the "e-referral" system (eRS). This is a national system and is not within the control of the practice. The practice will generate a booking letter that should enable you to make an appointment through this system.
- Those attending Accident & Emergency ('ER', 'A&E', or 'Casualty') typically wait about four hours to be treated or transferred to a ward. Emergencies arriving via ambulance may be admitted to hospital more urgently.

Optometry and Dental care

- For routine eye/vision problems go directly to an Optician (optometrist). Those with eye diseases can be referred by a GP (often following an Optometrist's report) to hospital for specialist treatment, covered by the NHS. Minor eye conditions may be managed free on the NHS by opticians. See <https://oxfordshireloc.org.uk/mecs/>.
- Dentistry should be available on the NHS but there is a scale of charges, and most dentists limit the number of NHS patients they treat, and it can be difficult to get an appointment- so many people choose a private dentist. It may be best to continue to see your dentist back home for routine work.

Sexual health

- It is possible to go to a specialist unit for genitourinary medicine without a GP referral. If you are worried about sexually transmitted infections you can phone 01865 231231 or visit www.sexualhealthoxfordshire.nhs.uk. This NHS clinic also provides a full range of contraception.

Healthcare abroad

- The NHS does not cover medical care abroad, or extended prescriptions for long vacations abroad, or at the end of your degree. Please ensure you have appropriate insurance or cover in other countries.