

Dr Anneliese Keightley
Dr Varuna Paranaheva
Dr Clare Reynolds
Dr Shujeebur Rahman
Dr Nick Woodall
Dr Carmen Ersek
Dr Moti Gurung
Dr Nicola Hammond
Dr Gill Warren



September 2024

Dear Patient

Implementation of the British Medical Association's safe working guidance

Seaside Medical Centre have implemented the BMA (British Medical Association) safe working guidance. This is to protect your care as patients and also our clinical colleagues who provide it. We are committed to delivering safe high-quality care: we are on your side.

Because our daily clinical capacity is exceeded by the number of people who contact us, we will continue to signpost people to other NHS sources of support, including NHS 111 and other local services, such as Community Pharmacies, and Urgent Treatment/Care Centres.

Recent surveys have shown GPs across England are facing an unmanageable workload, which is at times affecting their ability to provide safe care. GPs are also retiring early, reducing their NHS commitments or deciding to leave the profession.

This is an unsustainable situation which must be addressed, and the BMA's safe working guidance is designed to help both you, as a patient, to receive better care, and your GP practice to provide it. England has lost over 1,300 GP Practices over the last decade and many thousands of experienced GPs. This undermines the care patients receive and ultimately General Practice as a fundamental part of the NHS.

Seaside Medical Centre endeavours to ensure care is prioritised for the most vulnerable. It would be appreciated if patients would consider alternative providers such as attending a Community Pharmacy, or an Urgent Treatment/Care Centre for minor and self-limiting problems.

The BMA's safe working guidance is designed to create a safer environment for you, our patients, who are our priority, and also for all our clinical teams, to keep this practice open and able to continue safely to deliver services with the team we have.

Please be reassured that you will continue to receive assessment and care from a range of clinical colleagues working at the practice.

Thank you
Seaside Medical Centre GP Partners

18 Sheen Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN22 8DR
Tel: 01323 725667 - Web: www.seasidemedicalcentre.co.uk

Accessible Communication Statement – this information can be made available in alternative formats such as easy read or large print and may be available in alternative languages upon request.

