

Registering with a GP at Seaside Medical Centre

All patients registered at Seaside Medical Centre are allocated a named GP when they register with the Practice; patients are informed at the time of registration and a registration appointment is made with that GP.

The practice makes reasonable efforts to accommodate a request for a particular GP if there is a preference. The named GP is responsible for the patients' overall care at the Practice. Should you not be aware who your named GP is, please contact the Practice by phone or in person and our reception team will be happy to inform you.

Patients can make appointments to see any GP working at the practice however we do encourage patients to see their allocated GP where possible for continuity of care. The allocated GP remains responsible for all telephone calls and all correspondence concerning their patient unless they are on annual leave in which case the doctor on duty will cover this work.

With regard to requesting a change of allocated GP Seaside Medical Centre has a policy in place that restricts patients transferring from their allocated GP to another GP within the Practice.

This is for the following reasons:

- The benefits of continuity of care help both the patient and the doctor when it comes to keeping you as healthy as possible; anything which increases or enhances the doctor's understanding of all that's gone on before and the patient's history is a plus when it comes to dealing with the onset or the prevention of medical conditions. Understanding the family history or the emotional and mental issues you've had to deal with, with life or with work, is beneficial in terms of treating you. It's not just your medical history your GP will be tracking either, GPs are trained to pick up emotional cues and changes in body language, so a slight change in your demeanour can go a long way towards helping them provide the right treatment and care you need.
- The aim among the GP team at this practice is to offer the same standard and essence or model of clinical care and this includes decisions on referring and prescribing of medication.
- It is important that you are happy to see any doctor at the practice, this is because we run a daily duty doctor system which is done on a Rota basis, and therefore it is likely that you will see different GPs at times throughout your registration at the practice.
- Due to the number of GPs we have working at the practice each GP's patient list is currently full and there is not capacity to transfer patients from other doctor's lists; any availability on the list is given to new patients registering at the practice for the first time.

Patients have the right to register at a different doctor's surgery any time by filling in a registration form, this can be found on our website or at the new surgery, and you are not required to inform your GP. A request will then be made for your medical records to be transferred to the new GP surgery.