

Q: What's the best thing about working at Minchinhampton Surgery?

A: It's a genuine team effort. Everyone contributes, all opinions are heard and valued, and everyone works hard to deliver the service we provide. I love my patients too - my style is quite relaxed and chatty so I hope that helps them open up to me with their health concerns.

Q: How do you decompress after a challenging day?

A: I'm a member of a book club and I enjoy aerial acrobatics which is physically challenging and great for the self-esteem.

Difficult times – help us to help you

It has been widely reported that we are 4,200 GPs short nationally - a huge number which equates to the service provision of 2 million patients. There has never been a greater need for primary care (GP surgeries), particularly with the unprecedented demand on ambulances and secondary care (hospitals).

To give you an idea of our surgery numbers last year:

Number of appointments booked in 2022: **36,907**

Number of missed appointments in 2022: **1,487**

Although we understand that some missed appointments may have been for very valid reasons, nearly 1,500 missed appointments is still a large number. Please help us to help you – if you are unable to make an appointment for any reason, just give us a quick call to let us know so that we can offer your appointment to another patient.

Thank you.



Minchinhampton Surgery

Here with you



February 2023 newsletter

GP partners: Dr Weir, Dr Simpson, Dr Cain, Dr Xerri, Dr Cooper, Dr Beard, Dr Walker

Registrars: Dr Neiles, Dr Qaiser

Clinical Manager: Ros Duncan

Practice Manager: Kerry Thompson

Telephone: 01453 883793

Website: www.minchsurgery.nhs.uk

A warm welcome to every one of you and best wishes for 2023

Did you know?

We have over 7,700 patients registered at the surgery.

Our clinical staff includes 7 GP partners, 2 registrars, 1 clinical manager, 3 practice nurses, 3 healthcare assistants - plus affiliated practitioners such as our pharmacy team, counsellors, midwife and acupuncturist.

Our administration staff is made up of 12 reception, secretarial and finance team members. All headed up by Practice Manager Kerry Thompson.

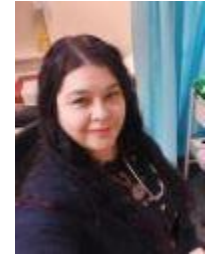
Covid19 & flu update

Thank you for being such willing participants in our Autumn Covid19 booster and flu campaign. To date, 5,911 of you have been happy to come in and roll your sleeves up to receive your next jab. Whilst the number of Covid19 patients attending hospital has increased over the winter, most vaccinated people who contract the virus seem to experience milder symptoms - so thank you for helping us build a safer and better protected community.

Carry On Nursing

We want to reassure you that our practice nurses are not involved in the current nurse strike action and are working hard to provide you with the level of care you need.

In conversation with Dr Fiona Neiles, Registrar



Q: What is a Registrar?

A: A Registrar is a junior doctor who has chosen to train in a specialised field e.g. as a hospital consultant or General Practitioner (GP). I will be working here until the summer and Dr Chanda Qaiser will be with us for the next 18 months.

Q: How many years of study does it take to become a doctor and then a GP?

A: I actually studied Forensic Science for 3 years before deciding to train at medical school. I then spent 5 years at Barts & The London School of Medicine where I developed an interest in women's health and so trained for a further 2 years in Obstetrics and Gynaecology followed by 2 years in A&E. I've now chosen to become a fully qualified GP so it's 15 years and counting...

Q: What attracted you to the world of primary care?

A: There's so much we can do in primary care which can make such an impact on a patient's quality of life. Supporting the patient to understand and take control of their own health is hugely satisfying, working alongside patients rather than just delivering a service.

Q: What is the most interesting part of your role?

A: As a GP you have to know something about everything, so I enjoy the broad knowledge and skills set that gives me. My continued interest remains in women's health, supporting patients with menstruation, fertility, menopause and more. You're not on your own ladies!