

Backwell and Nailsea Medical Group

IMPORTANT PATIENT ANNOUNCEMENT

MAY 2016

The Partners are delighted to announce that Backwell and Nailsea Medical Group, Nailsea Family Practice and Long Ashton Surgery will be merging later this year 2016.

The new name of the practice group will be announced shortly, along with a date the practices formally merge.

WHY HAVE WE MADE THIS DECISION ?

We want to ensure patients at all three practices continue to receive high quality medical care from a sustainable organisation in an ever changing NHS. We feel that the best way to be sure we can do this is to bring together the resources from all three practices.

As a larger organisation, we will be in a better position to provide sufficient doctors and nurses to meet the increasing demands now being made on us. Increasingly, we are looking after patients with more complex medical problems whilst striving to provide a personal approach. Alongside reliable, easy access for patients with a diverse range of health needs we also consider continuity of care very important. This is in the face of changing demands from Government and local NHS bodies seeking to move more work out of hospitals into Primary Care settings

The workload of all GP practices has risen hugely in recent years and we need to make sure that staff time is used effectively. At present each practices is duplicating many routine tasks. By coming together we can make time efficiencies which will free up staff to focus on improvements in our current services, as well as enabling us to respond to new initiatives. We look forward to the changes in order to deliver effective, outstanding health care to all our patients in the future.

HOW WILL MY CARE BE AFFECTED?

Continuity of care is valued by patients and doctors across all three practices. Even though there will be a bigger team of doctors and nurses, we will continue to encourage patients to see their usual doctor or nurse for ongoing health problems . From a patient perspective it will be ' Business as Usual'

As a bigger practice, in time, we hope to be in a position to avoid the need for some patients to attend hospital clinics by being able to develop and provide more services and specialist expertise locally which were only previously available in hospitals.