

# Heathgate Medical Practice

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## **Patient information - your named accountable GP**

As you may have read in the press, our contract with NHS England to provide healthcare services to you requires us, by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, to advise you of your named 'accountable GP'.

The named individual is the GP that is designated to take overall responsibility for your care at the Practice and ensure that services are offered and delivered to you at the appropriate time.

You may also recall, when you registered with us, you will have been formally notified of a 'registered GP' and having discussed this matter with our patient reference group, we propose to use this same 'registered GP' as your 'accountable GP' too.

Having said that, the allocation of a 'registered GP' is now purely administrative, as the choice of which GP you see has always been left to you; although of course if there is the need to be seen urgently on a particular day, there may be less of a choice.

Patients have different thoughts on the choice of GP they see:

- Some of our patients choose to see more than one GP; perhaps one with a specialism in one area for a particular matter and another for a different condition.
- Other patients for continuity of care choose to always see the same GP, accepting at times they may have a longer wait for an appointment.
- And some may choose to see different GPs on different visits to the surgery.

This really illustrates the extent of choice we offer our patients and this is why we are not proposing to change the way in which we work with you by re-allocating 'registered' or 'named' GPs but leaving the choice of which doctor you see with yourself.

Our commitment to provide the appropriate care, at the appropriate time, in the appropriate way and in the appropriate setting remains.

Garry Whiting  
Managing Partner

J:Garry/Home/Work/Accountable GP