

Your GPs are:

PARTNERS:

Dr Richard Gillings

Dr Sarah Wigmore

Dr Kate Rawling

Dr Jillian Drury

Dr Helen McGeown

Dr Tom Cutts

SALARIED GP's:

Dr Jocelyn Stevens

Dr Heather Cox

Dr Emma Patch

Dr Harriet Muray

**PRACTICE
BUSINESS
MANAGER:**

Cara Fynn

**DEPUTY
PRACTICE
MANAGER:**

Jo Curnow

You can find us on

Facebook



Newsletter Autumn 26



Flu & Covid Immunisations

It's that time of the year again for Flu & Covid vaccinations for those who are eligible! We'll be kicking this off with large Saturday clinics on the 3rd and 17th of October. Look out for your invite if you meet the criteria for free vaccination!

You can get the free NHS flu vaccine if you:

- are aged 65 or over (including those who will be 65 by 31 March 2027)
- are aged 18 to 64 and have certain long-term health conditions
- are pregnant
- live in a care home
- are the main carer for an older or disabled person, or receive a carer's allowance
- live with someone who has a weakened immune system
- are experiencing homelessness or staying in a homeless hostel or night shelter

You can get a COVID-19 vaccine if you:

- are aged 75 or over (including those who will be 75 by 31 January 2027)
- are aged 6 months to 74 years and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment
- live in a care home for older adults



Could you help with asthma research?

People living with asthma in Bristol are being invited to take part in a study to improve treatment and reduce asthma attacks.

The MODIFY Study is investigating whether an existing asthma medicine, depem-okimab, could help people with Type 2 asthma earlier in their treatment journey. The study is looking for adults who have had a diagnosis of asthma for at least two years, have experienced at least two asthma attacks within the last three years - with at least one of these occurring within the last year and continue to use regular asthma medication.

Find out more about the study, including the eligibility criteria, on the BFT website - <https://www.bristolft.nhs.uk/about-us/news-and-media/newsroom/2026/southmead-hospital-recruiting-volunteers-asthma-study>

Surgery

Opening Times:

8.00am—6.30pm

Both telephone calls and face to face appointments are available

We also offer early morning and evening appointments. Please see website for details.

Cervical Screening—HPV Self-Testing

Cervical screening saves thousands of lives every year by preventing cervical cancer or finding it at an earlier stage, when treatment is more likely to be successful. Around 70% of eligible women in England are up to date with cervical screening, but millions of people are missing the opportunity to take part in this life-saving programme.

While it's still best to have cervical screening done by a healthcare professional, there are barriers that can make it harder or even impossible for some people to attend. HPV self-testing is one way to reduce those barriers and help more people take part in a way that works for them. It will be rolled out gradually to eligible people across England, with around four million invites being sent out in the initial phase.

People who are eligible to take part in HPV self-testing will be invited through the NHS app, in a text message, in an email or a letter in the post. The invite will explain how to order a free HPV self-testing kit, which will then be sent to your home with instructions on what to do. The kit includes a swab, which is like a long cotton bud. This allows you to take a sample and once the sample has been taken it can be sent off to the NHS for free in a discreet prepaid envelope. The sample is then checked for high risk HPV, the virus that causes nearly all cervical cancers.

If the sample does not show high-risk HPV, no further tests are needed. You'll be invited for routine cervical screening again in 5 years if you are still within the eligible age range. If high-risk HPV is found, this does not mean you have cervical cancer. You will be invited to have a regular cervical screening test with a nurse or doctor. This can be done at your GP practice, sexual health clinic or at a specialist clinic.



Referral Pathway Changes

The referral service who historically triaged the majority of GP referrals to the correct speciality is no more! This means that all referrals now need to be sent directly to the correct clinic.

This also means that the surgery will now be responsible for sending patients' booking information and clinic choice letters. Where possible, the surgery will send out an email to patients containing their booking details. You can use these details to book your appointment online or using the telephone number on the letter.

It is therefore really important that we have an up-to-date email address for as many patients as possible. In the event a referral is sent and we don't have an email, we will need to print and post letters to patients. This may cause delays in receiving your appointment details but also will incur additional postage costs for the surgery.

Please note that the surgery is not able to book your appointment for you however please contact the surgery if you have not yet received your booking details. Thank you for your understanding while we get to grips with this new process!



Please help our reception team by remembering test results can only be given out between **12 and 4pm daily**

Contact Number: 0117 9493988

Email us at bnssg.priory.surgery@nhs.net or visit www.priorysurgerybristol.co.uk