

LANGHAM PLACE SURGERY

NAMED ACCOUNTABLE GP

From 1st April 2015 GP Practices are required by the Government, under the terms of the latest GP Contract, to allocate all patients a named accountable GP.

What does 'accountable' mean?

The contract requires the named accountable GP to take responsibility for the co-ordination of all appropriate services required under the contract and ensure they are delivered to each of their patients where required.

This does not mean that they will be the only GP or clinician who will provide care to that patient. These responsibilities will be carried out within the opening hours of the Practice and do not change the way patients currently access care outside these hours.

The contract remains 'practice based', so overall responsibility for patient care has not changed. This is largely a role of oversight, with the requirements being introduced to reassure patients that they have one GP within the practice who is responsible for ensuring that this work is carried out on their behalf.

What are the named GP's responsibilities to 75s and over?

For patients aged 75 and over the named accountable GP is responsible for:

- Working with relevant associated health and social care professionals to deliver a multi-disciplinary care package that meets the needs of the patient
- Ensuring that these patients have access to a health check.

Does the requirement mean 24-hour responsibility for patients? - No

- The named GP will not take on vicarious responsibility for the work of other doctors or health professionals
- The named GP will not take on 24-hour responsibility for the patient, or have to change their working hours. The requirement does not imply personal availability for GPs throughout the working week
- The named GP will not be the only GP or clinician who will provide care to that patient

Do patients have to see the named GP when they book an appointment with the practice? - No

- Having a named GP does not prevent you seeing any other doctor in the practice. Your named GP will not be available at all times and if your needs are urgent, you may need to discuss them with an alternative doctor
- Patients can and should feel free to choose to see any GP or nurse in the practice in line with current arrangements.