Our Clinicians and Doctors work as a team to bring you the best treatment in line with your medical needs





Before the NHS was formed the treatment you received was dependant on how much money you could afford to pay and often stopped many poor families getting help. Hospitals were run almost institutionally or regimentally, for their origins were in the workhouses or military hospitals of Victorian times. Florence Nightingale, probably the most famous nurse in the world, came to the forefront treating soldiers in the Crimean War.

1948 saw the birth of the NHS and free treatment at the point of care made it a source of National Pride. This new service focused mainly on hospitals because that was where most change was required. The multidisciplinary team that you see when visiting any hospital to stay or as an outpatient would be unrecognisable to those working in or using services pre 1948. There is a hierarchy from consultant to registrar, to specialist nurse / ward sister / Matron to nurse to ancillary, each playing their part in the treatment of the patient, with the ultimate responsibility being the patients consultant.

GP services were in the main allowed to carry on in their traditional ways, quite often working out of converted houses or shops. The demand for this "Free Service" increased and in the 60s/70s/80s purpose built health centres started to appear with multi partnered practices. But demand is still more than the number of GPs available

In line with national developments in General Practice, Darwen Healthcare has embraced initiatives to expand our clinical teams to include new and advanced roles which will significantly increase our ability to offer timely high quality clinical care for our patients to meet their needs

The new roles that are already in place within the Practice and contributing to patient care are:-

- Advanced Clinical Nurse Practitioner
- Advanced Nurse Practitioner
- Physician Associate
- Paramedic Practitioner
- Clinical Pharmacist

All of these clinicians have each qualified in their own areas of expertise followed by intensive and up to date training in their individual specialisms and clinical competencies. Similar to medical teams in hospitals, their work is closely supervised and monitored by senior doctors, who retain overall responsibility for clinical care. Individual cases are referred and supervised only in line with strict referral protocols approved by the GP Partners to ensure patients receive skilled care from appropriate members

of the clinical team to treat their need in a timely manner. To ensure the clinical protocols are applied correctly from referral, at first contact patients may be asked initial questions, by trained receptionists, about the symptoms and reasons for seeking help to ensure they see the right person in line with their needs.

Our current compliment of Non GP Clinicians at the moment are



Debbie Yates

Role Advanced Clinical Nurse Practitioner

Area of Practice

Pre-bookable and on the Day Appointments. Chronic Disease, Respiratory Lead Minor Surgery including Contraceptive Implants and Coil Fitting Smear Tests

Non-Medical Prescriber



Julia Mullaney

Role Advanced Clinical Nurse Practitioner

Area of Practice

Pre-bookable and on the Day Appointments. Chronic Disease Frailty

Smear Tests Advanced Care Planning Non-Medical Prescriber



Claire Brosnan

Role Advance Nurse Practitioner

Area of Practice

Priority on the Day and pre-bookable Appointments. Medication Reviews Chronic Disease Management Smear Tests

Non-Medical Prescriber



Neil Sinclair

Role Physician Associate

Area of Practice

Pre-bookable and on the Day Appointments Frailty Reviews and Visits Home Visits (Acute and Routine)



Simon Holden

Role Paramedic Practitioner

Area of Practice

Selected On the Day Appointments Home Visits (Acute and Routine) Frailty Reviews and Visits



Zeeshan Zulfegar

Role Clinical Pharmacist

Area of Practice

Selected on the day appointments Medication Reviews Home Visits for Housebound patients requiring a medication review



David Carter

Role Physician Associate

Area of Practice

On the Day Appointments Frailty Reviews and Visits Home Visits (Acute and Routine)