

PPG - May 2024

Agenda

- PCN presentation
- Health test
- Telephone appointment procedure info for website
- Health checks
- Webmail prescriptions

What is a Primary Care Network (PCN)

- A Primary Care Network (PCN) is a group of local general practitioner (GP) practices that work together with other health and social care providers to offer more integrated services to their local communities.
- Key features:
- Larger scale services: PCNs typically serve a population of 30,000 to 50,000 people. By working at a larger scale, they can offer more services than a single practice could alone.
- Expanded teams: PCNs are funded to hire a wider range of healthcare professionals. This can include clinical pharmacists, social prescribing link workers, paramedics, and mental health practitioners, in addition to GPs and practice nurses.
- Integrated care: The goal is to provide proactive, personalised, and coordinated care. This includes closer collaboration with community health providers, hospitals, mental health services, and the voluntary sector.
- Benefits for patients: This model offers a greater range of services, better access to care closer to home, and more integrated support for people with complex needs.

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- What it is: A group of 5 to 10 GP practices serving a population of 30,000 to 50,000 patients.
- Purpose: To work with community, mental health, social care, and hospital services to offer a wider range of services to patients in their local area.
- Currently in Leamington there is a north and south PCN. Croft is in the south along with Warwick Gates, Spa Medical and Whitnash.
- Stuart Jackson (PCN Manager) attended to give an update on his role:
- PCN managers oversee the coordination and operations of Primary Care Networks.
- They play a role in improving patient services across multiple GP practices.
- The PCN manager responsibilities cover a wide range of tasks that keep Primary Care Networks running smoothly and effectively. From operational oversight to strategic planning, the role is central to managing primary care services across multiple GP practices.
- Designing and implementing care models that meet the needs of local patient populations.
- Building strong relationships with practice managers and clinical leads to align goals and share best practice.

Health checks

- An NHS Health Check is a free, 20–30-minute check-up for adults in England aged 40 to 74 who don't have any pre-existing conditions like heart disease, stroke, or diabetes. It assesses your risk of developing heart disease, stroke, kidney disease, and type 2 diabetes, and also checks for signs of dementia. The check involves a discussion about your medical history, a blood pressure check, a blood test for cholesterol, and measurements of your height and weight. Based on the results, you will receive personalized advice to help you improve your health and lower your risk of future illness.
- Who is eligible
- You must not already have any of the following conditions: heart disease, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, high blood pressure, stroke, atrial fibrillation, or heart failure.
- You must also not be currently taking statins to lower your cholesterol.
- What happens after the check
- At the end of the appointment, the healthcare professional will discuss your results with you and explain what they mean for your overall health.
- Risk assessment: You will be given your cardiovascular risk score, which estimates your chances of developing a heart or circulation problem in the next decade.
- Personalised advice: Based on your risk score, you will receive personalised advice on how to improve your health. This may include guidance on diet, exercise, weight management, or help with smoking cessation.
- Treatment or referral: If your risk is higher, the professional may discuss lifestyle changes or, if necessary, medication to manage your blood pressure or cholesterol. You may also be referred to other services for further support.