

PPG - November 2024

Agenda

- Permissions for children over 11 – JI
- Repeat prescriptions – KB
- RSV - BMW
- Covid/Flu update – BMW
- Friends & Family – BMW
- PPG moving forward

Permissions for children over 11

- As children grow older, they begin to take more responsibility for their own healthcare. GPs regularly review how independent they are in making health decisions and managing their care.
- **1. Making Healthcare Decisions and Giving Consent**
- **Understanding consent**
- As children mature, GPs assess whether they can understand and make decisions about their treatment. This is part of supporting their independence and protecting their wellbeing.
- **Aged 16 and over**
- Anyone aged 16 or older is legally able to consent to their own treatment.
- **Under 16 (Gillick competence)**
- Children under 16 may give consent if they can understand the treatment and its consequences. This is known as Gillick competence.
- **Parental involvement**
- If a child cannot consent, a parent or guardian with parental responsibility can decide on their behalf. However, the child's views should always be listened to and considered.
- **Confidential advice**
- GPs can offer confidential care (for example, about contraception, STIs, or pregnancy) to under-16s if they are judged competent — even without parental knowledge.

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- **Online GP Records and Access**
- **At age 11**
- A parent's access to their child's online GP services (proxy access) is reviewed after the 11th birthday. The GP will discuss with the child and parents how access should continue.
- **Young person's choices**
- A young person who is competent can:
 - Remove their parent's access entirely,
 - Limit access (e.g., only allow appointment booking), or
 - Allow full access if they wish.
- **At age 16**
- From 16 years old, young people will automatically get NHS App access to their GP record. GPs can grant access earlier if they decide the young person is competent.

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- **Health and Vaccinations**
- **Routine vaccinations**
- Check that all routine childhood vaccinations are up to date. This includes:
 - HPV vaccine – protects against cancers caused by the HPV virus.
 - MMR vaccine – two doses protect against measles, mumps, and rubella.
 - Catch-up vaccinations are available if any doses were missed.
- **Before university**
- Before starting college or university, ensure vaccination against meningitis with the MenACWY vaccine.
- **Missed appointments**
- If a young person misses a health appointment, the GP practice will follow up. If there are safeguarding concerns, the practice may contact other services for support.
- **Further Guidance**
- RCGP Learning: Children and Young People – Consent and Competence
- NHS: Consent to Treatment for Young People – <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/consent-to-treatment/children/>
- NHS: Vaccinations and When to Have Them – <https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/>

Repeat prescriptions

- **Ordering repeat prescriptions**
- Repeat prescriptions will be issued at the doctor's discretion and are normally for patients on long-term treatment. If you think you may need a new prescription for medicine, please make an appointment with the doctor.
- **Please Note – The practice will not take prescriptions requests over the telephone.**
- You can request a repeat prescription using the options below. The easiest way to request a repeat prescription is Online. Our Online Services can help you request repeat medication at your convenience with automated delivery of your prescription to your preferred pharmacy. It will show you all your repeat medicine and dosage and you can choose the ones you need. Please visit the Apps section below to access Online Services.
- You may also complete the Webform via the website to request a repeat prescription.
- Please allow **72 working hours** before collecting your prescription.

RSV + Covid update

- The RSV vaccine protects against a common virus that can be serious for infants and older adults.
 - Pregnant women: A single RSV vaccine dose is recommended during weeks 28 to 36 of pregnancy. This passes protection to the baby for their first few months of life.
 - Older adults: A single dose is available for older adults, especially those aged 75 to 79. If you are in this age group, contact your doctor to schedule your vaccination.
 - Infants: A protective shot (antibody) called nirsevimab is available for all infants under 8 months old. This is also recommended for some high-risk children aged 8 to 19 months.
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- Covid-19 vaccine is for everyone aged 6 months and older should get the updated annual COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Updated for new variants: The 2024–2025 COVID-19 vaccines are updated to target current virus strains.
 - Annual shot: The vaccine is offered each fall, alongside the flu and RSV vaccines. It is generally safe and effective to get multiple vaccines at once, but some older adults may receive them separately

Friends & Family

- The FFT was created to help service providers and commissioners understand whether patients are happy with the service provided, or where improvements are needed. It's a quick and anonymous way to give your views after receiving NHS care or treatment.
- The Friends and Family Test (FFT) is an important feedback tool that supports the fundamental principle that people who use NHS services should have the opportunity to provide feedback on their experience. Listening to the views of patients and staff helps identify what is working well, what can be improved and how.
- After being launched in April 2013, the FFT was rolled out in phases to most NHS-funded services in England over a two-year period, and now gives all patients, users of services, their carers and loved ones the opportunity to leave feedback on their care and treatment.
- The feedback gathered through the FFT is being used in NHS organisations across the country to stimulate local improvement and empower staff to carry out the changes that make a real difference to patients and their care.

PPG moving forward

- Elect a chair: Appoint a patient chair to lead meetings and help empower the group.
- No individual complaints: PPG meetings are not for discussing individual patient complaints or personal issues.
- No disruptions: Keep meetings productive by minimizing distractions like phones.
- PPG members to take the minutes
- For further information - <https://napp.org.uk/>
- PPG to create action plans:
- PPG to develop a plan that outlines the group's objectives and how they will be achieved.
- PPG to gather patient feedback:
- PPG to conduct surveys or research to understand what matters to patients and discuss the findings with the practice.
- Support the practice:
- Contribute to improving services and facilities for patients.