

Dear Patient,

Our practice is working together with other local practices across Chippenham, Corsham and Box as part of a Primary Care Network (PCN). These changes were introduced by the NHS in 2019 to help find new and better ways to care for our patients. (More details, including a helpful video explaining PCNs can be found here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/primary-care/primary-care-networks/>)

Some examples of how us working better together include:

- We established a Vaccination Hub at Rowden Surgery in Chippenham to vaccinate many thousands of our patients against COVID during the pandemic.
- We have an Urgent Care Centre at New Road Surgery in Chippenham to improve access for our patients who need same-day urgent care.
- We have created a "Living Well Team" to improve how we provide non-medical care to our more isolated and vulnerable patients.
- Our "First-Contact Physiotherapists" who can see our patients quickly and without the need for a GP referral.
- Our PCN Pharmacists can provide expert advice to both professionals and patients across the PCN.

To provide co-ordinated care such as this way the doctors and nurses at our GP surgery are working together with colleagues from across the PCN. Our team now includes doctors, nurses, pharmacists, paramedics, physiotherapists and physicians associates all working alongside the usual GPs and nurses that you might expect to see at a GP practice.

These changes mean that we need to access our patients' notes from the other local GP surgeries and from our PCN offices. This is known as "shared administration". Being able to share access to your medical notes in this way also gives us the ability to work from other premises in the event of a major incident e.g. a fire, that would prevent us from using our own surgery.

To do this, we need to ask your permission for shared access to your medical records. Please be assured that that anyone accessing your medical records will be following the same strict rules on confidentiality that are followed at our own surgery. It is, of course, possible to opt out of shared administration. However, this will restrict how we are able to provide care for you and we urge you to speak to a member of our practice team about your concerns before choosing this option.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Philip Grimmer and Dr Alison Challens

Clinical Directors
Chippenham Corsham and Box Primary Care Network



Please complete the form below:

Name.....

DOB.....

I consent / I do not consent to shared administration (Please delete as appropriate)

Signature.....

Date.....