



Welcome

We share a monthly patient newsletter to keep you up to date with what is happening here at Westongrove, and to raise awareness of health and well-being issues.

Please send any feedback or things you would like to see to:
Westongrove.Patientnewsletter@nhs.net

Important Announcement: Changes to Post-Operative Wound Care Services

For some time, we have been providing an unfunded post-operative wound care service for the convenience of our patients, despite the funding to provide post-operative care being received by the hospitals.

This service has been especially valuable for those who need regular care but struggling to get to Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

We regret that due to increasing demands on our nursing team and financial pressures on NHS General Practice overall (<https://www.bma.org.uk/bma-media-centre/responding-to-the-new-gp-contract-for-202425>) we can no longer continue to provide this service for which the hospital receives payment as continuing to do so compromises our ability to deliver our core General Practice Services.

What does this mean for you?

- From 31st August 2024, we will no longer offer post-operative wound care to any new patients. This includes post-operative care from all private and NHS services, including dermatology, surgery and urgent care. Patients will be required to receive ongoing wound care from these services directly.
- We cannot offer dressings or wound care for wounds obtained via trauma or other injury, as we do not have a contract to provide care for minor injuries
- Patients currently receiving wound care will continue to be offered a maximum of 2 dressing changes per week until they are healed and discharged
- Patients who are housebound will be able to receive post-operative wound care from the local District Nursing service. This should be arranged by the hospital service directly at the time of discharge.
- We will continue to offer post-operative clip/suture removal as well as wound care for leg ulcers, as these are separately contracted services.

Thank you for your understanding and support

OPENING HOURS

Opening Times

In accordance with NHS England's Enhanced Access standards, our doors are open 08:00-18:30, with phone lines available 08:00-13:00 and 14.00 – 18:30.

We also offer appointments in extended hours up to 8pm on week days and Saturday mornings 8am – 12noon.

Find out more:

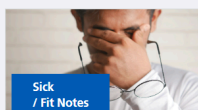
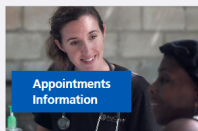
 westongrove.co.uk

 [@westongrovepartnership](https://www.facebook.com/westongrovepartnership)

Exciting News: Our New Website is Now Live!

Westongrove Partnership

Welcome to our new surgery website – we hope you find it useful



Our brand new website is live at www.westongrove.com after making improvements based on valuable feedback from our community.

Key Features of Our New Website

- 1. User-Friendly Design:** Easy navigation with an intuitive layout
- 2. Health Information Hub:** Access reliable medical advice and resources
- 3. Online Forms:** Complete necessary paperwork before your visit
- 4. Efficient Contact Options:** Multiple ways to reach us online
- 5. Digital Services Guide:** Learn how to use our online services
- 6. Appointment Information:** Understand our booking system
- 7. Prescription Management:** Renew prescriptions online
- 8. Practice Updates:** Stay informed about our services and healthcare news
- 9. Mobile Compatibility:** Full functionality on all devices

Embracing Digital Healthcare

Our enhanced online presence offers convenient access to healthcare services and information, which can save you from having to call us.

**ask
FIRST**

Available 24/7
Check your symptoms
Find local services
Need an appointment?
Self care advice
Have an enquiry?

Cancer Corner

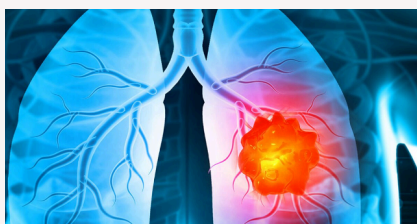
Lung Cancer Awareness

Our 'Spotlight on Cancer' this month focuses on Lung Cancer, one of the most common and serious types of cancer.

In the UK alone, more than 43,000 people are diagnosed with lung cancer every year, making it a significant health concern for our community.

Understanding Lung Cancer

Lung cancer occurs when cells in the lungs grow and divide uncontrollably, forming tumors that can spread to other parts of the body. While smoking is the leading cause, lung cancer can affect anyone, including non-smokers.



Key Symptoms to Watch For

- A persistent cough that doesn't go away after 3 weeks
- A long-standing cough that gets worse
- Coughing up blood
- Persistent breathlessness
- Unexplained tiredness and weight loss
- An ache or pain when breathing or coughing

When to Seek Medical Advice

If you experience any of these symptoms, particularly a new or worsening cough that persists for more than three weeks, it's crucial to contact us to schedule a GP appointment.

Early detection can significantly improve treatment outcomes.

Flu Vaccines 2024



Our flu vaccines are due to arrive in September, and we will start to vaccinate our eligible patients based on the current NHS England and government guidelines:

- From 1st September – pregnant ladies and children
- From 1st October – All other eligible patients
- We will be running Saturday flu clinics across all three sites during October and November and will contact eligible patients nearer the time.

For more information on this year's programme and who is eligible please visit <https://www.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine/>



Find out more: [Nhs.uk/app](https://www.nhs.uk/app)

Millions of people are using the NHS App to manage their health the easy way. Find out how you can securely view your health records in the NHS App.

