

GP Health Connect Ltd

Shareholder Update

Issue: Summer 25/26

Everything You Need To Know About Our Dermatology (Minor Lesion) Service

Key Reminders:



Please do not book any patient in to an appointment for this service UNLESS they have first been reviewed by a GP in your practice.

Please ensure the patient information leaflet is given to the patient so they understand what is expected from their appointment.

This service currently operates for adults only. Please do not book anyone under 18 years of age.

Inappropriate referrals



Inappropriate referrals to this service are a waste of an appointment and can aggravate patients. They also don't help your waiting list! In 2024/5 Dr Griffiths saw 477 patients. Of those 22.9% (109) were inappropriately referred into the service. Please check the referral conditions and exclusion criteria attached to this Newsletter.

Contact us



If you would like to contact us regarding your referral, please email: runcornghc.dermatology@nhs.net

Dermatology Clinics are held every Friday at Heath Road medical centre (these times may vary but you will be informed via email)

*Please note any clinical responses will only be picked up during the Dermatology clinic

Contact: Diane Hanshaw
(Business Manager) on
07904 939683

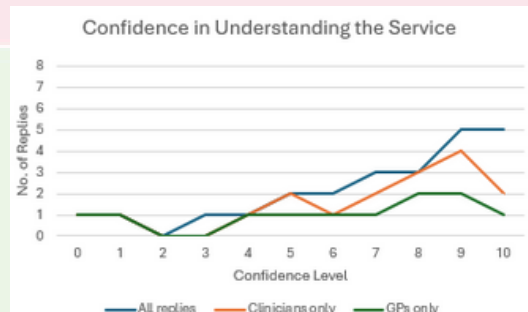


Survey Results

Thanks to all those of you who recently completed the survey we sent out about our dermatology (minor lesion) service. We received 24 replies with 17 of these being from clinicians.

Satisfaction with the service is very high (which is great) and only 1 respondent (a GP who has never used the service) felt there would be no impact on their practice if the service was not available.

However, we were concerned about the feedback around your level of understanding of the service. The two graphs below show the responses we received for how well you feel you understand what this service offers and how well you feel you understand how to actually access the service. Ideally, we would want everyone to score 9 or 10 for both questions. The very fact that one GP acknowledged that he/she didn't understand the service means his/her patients may be missing out on timely access to treatment for their skin lesion. This was a clear message to us that we needed to provide more guidance.



We have worked with Dr John Griffiths who provides the service in Runcorn to put together a handy leaflet to highlight what should and should not be referred into the service. This leaflet is attached to this Newsletter. We are also about to issue a helpful short video and associated flowchart to explain how to book your patients into the service. We really hope this helps you better understand our service and how to book your patients into it – and please let us know if there is anything else you think we can do to help.

HALTON PRIMARY CARE

DERMATOLOGY LESION SERVICE

CONDITIONS ELIGIBLE FOR REFERRAL:

- ✓ Lesions where there is **diagnostic uncertainty** i.e., lesions that may not be malignant but require a second opinion
- ✓ Suspected **basal cell carcinoma (BCC)** in non-high-risk areas
- ✓ Suspected **actinic keratosis, Bowen's disease, keratin horns**
- ✓ Pink, **scaly plaques** that **bleed, scab** or **do not heal**

EXCLUSION CRITERIA:

- ✗ Suspected **malignant melanoma**
- ✗ Suspected **squamous cell carcinoma (SCC)**
- ✗ **High-risk BCCs** (head, neck, recurrent)
- ✗ **Paediatrics** (under 16 years old)
- ✗ **Rashes** (fungal, viral, chronic inflammatory, widespread)
- ✗ Low-priority minor surgery (e.g. **skin tags, cysts**)
- ✗ **Seborrheic keratosis**
- ✗ Mole mapping/**skin checks**

DO NOT REFER IF:

- The patient is **already on a waitlist** for dermatology.
- The patient has **already been seen** by dermatology or is **currently under dermatology care**.
- The patient requires **hospital-initiated drugs** (e.g., bullous pemphigoid).
- The patient **requires a 2-week wait appointment**.
- The patient would benefit more from a secondary care appointment.

