

In this issue:

Enhanced Access 2025
summary

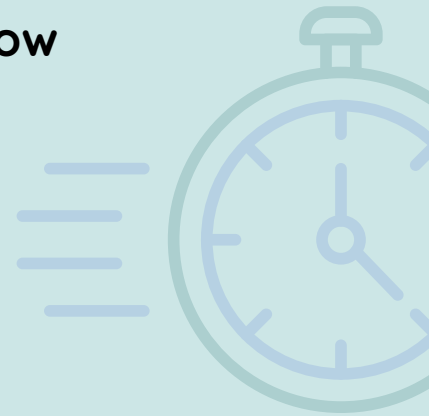
Registering as a carer at
your practice

NEW Carer support
appointments available
locally



Enhanced Access - Figures for 2025

Enhanced Access is a service we provide to allow patients to book appointments out of normal working hours. These extra appointments are designed to make healthcare more accessible and convenient for you. You can read more about Enhanced Access [HERE](#).

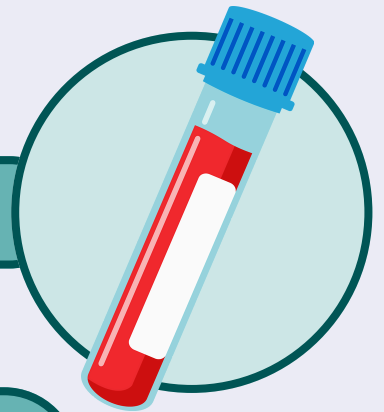


In 2025 we provided:



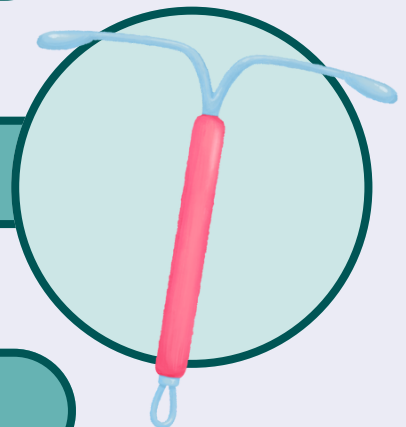
6783 GP appointments

3291 Blood tests



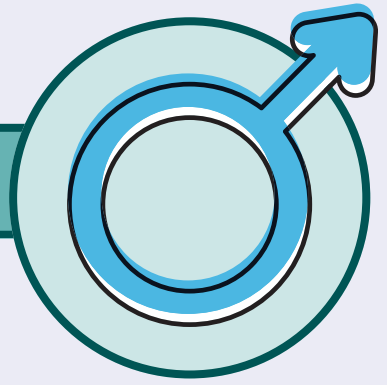
2593 Advanced Nurse practitioner appointments

375 Coil appointments



1653 Nurse appointments

612 Men's Health GP Appointments



366 Ear Syringing appointments

900 Pharmacist appointments



Total number of appointments in 2025:



16,573



TO BOOK:

Call your usual GP practice reception to book an appointment, or check the NHS App. Some appointments, such as contraception services or Ear syringing, a referral is required from your practice.

WHERE?

- Appointments are held at The Centre Surgery, Hinckley, LE10 1DS
Mon-Fri 18:30-20:00
Saturday 08:00-17:00
- Newbold Verdon Medical Practice, LE9 9PZ
Saturday 08:00-17:00

Why isn't it always at my usual surgery?

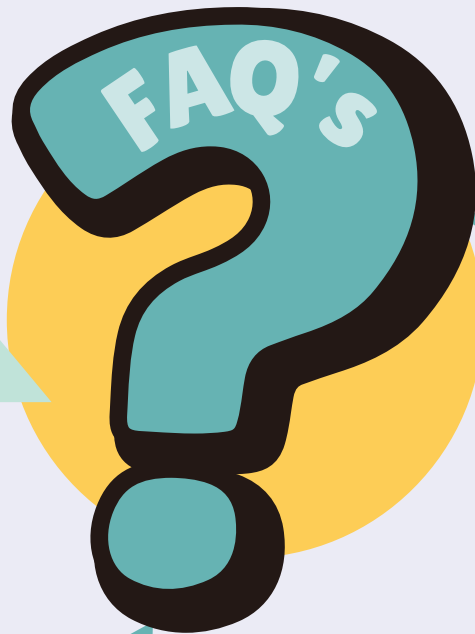
Not all practices can safely open extended hours on their own. By using shared PCN sites, the network can pool resources and staff, allowing more appointments to be available overall – benefiting more patients.

What is a PCN?

Your GP practice is part of a Primary Care Network (PCN). A PCN is a group of local GP practices that work together and share staff and appointments to improve access to care for patients.

Why can we book appointments out of hours (OOH)?

Because practices in the PCN work together, they can offer appointments outside normal GP opening hours (evenings and weekends). These appointments may be held at other surgeries.



Why are these appointments beneficial?

Although the location may be further away, these appointments:

- Help you be seen sooner, especially when routine appointments are limited
- Offer flexible times that fit around work or family commitments
- Reduce the need to attend A&E or urgent care for non-urgent problems
- Give access to a range of clinicians, not just GPs

Do you care for someone? Let your practice know!

Do you Care for someone? Are you helping a family member, friend or neighbour who could not manage without you? The person you look after might have a physical or learning difficulty, be ill or frail, have mental health problems or misuse drugs or alcohol. They may be your child, partner or parent, or a friend or neighbour, and they might live with you or live elsewhere. You are an unpaid carer. As a carer, you need to look after your own health and wellbeing too.



Whatever your situation, make sure your GP practice knows you are a carer so that they can support you in your role as well as other health care professionals who may be supporting you.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access and complete the Leicestershire NHS Carers Registration Form. You can then return it to your GP practice reception to ensure they are aware of your role as a carer.

See page 3 for details of an exciting new local service for carers.

**SUPPORT
FOR CARERS
LEICESTERSHIRE**

Need 1:1 expert carer support?

Our new support for carers clinics offer carers a free one-hour appointment with a [Support for Carers](#) expert at a local GP practice, where carers can talk through any concerns they're experiencing. During the appointment we also look at things such as carers assessments, benefits advice, and any additional support that may help, including inviting them to carers groups and local services.

The aim is to give carers dedicated time, space and support to focus on their own wellbeing alongside their caring responsibilities.

To book an appointment, contact your registered GP Practice.



[Click HERE for more information.](#)

Real Life Case Study

- A carer recently came to the clinic feeling overwhelmed and unsure about the support available to them.
- During their one-hour appointment, they had dedicated time to talk in a confidential environment, addressing any concerns or worries they had, sometimes carers don't want to discuss these with family or friends.
- We explored both practical challenges, such as benefits and a carers assessment, and the emotional side of caring, which plays a big part in their wellbeing.
- We also connected them with a local carers group for ongoing peer support. By the end of the session, they felt much more informed, supported, and confident in managing their caring role.