## The NHS is Open

## The NHS is still here for you

Your NHS is still here for you. We know that some people are worried that they might be a burden to the NHS, or that they could contract COVID-19 if they seek help for an urgent medical issue at the moment. GPs in your area want to reassure you that this isn't the case and your NHS is here for you.

If you need urgent medical help visit your GP practice website, use an NHS app to contact your practice, or contact them by phone. Most appointments with a GP, nurse or other healthcare professional will now be via a phone call, and if you are told you need to see a clinician in person, the NHS has put measures in place to make sure patients are seen safely.

GP practices and hospitals have strict infection prevention and control measures in place, so it is safe to attend appointments. It is important that you continue attend routine appointments, such as antenatal checks, cancer screenings, and take your children for childhood vaccinations, as normal, unless you have been told not to attend.

If you need urgent medical help, and are not able to contact your practice visit NHS 111 online. If you cannot get help online, call 111. If it's a serious or life-threatening emergency, call 999

Advice regarding Coronavirus remains the same. Anyone who has symptoms of this illness (a new continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of smell or taste) must stay at home for at least seven days. Anyone you live with should not leave your home for 14 days. You can use the <u>NHS 111 COVID-19 online service</u> to check your symptoms and get more advice. You should not go to a GP practice, pharmacy or hospital. This is to help limit the spread of the virus.

## Social media

Message / Tweet/ Facebook post	Image
The NHS is still here for you. It is important you do not wait if you need medical help	Need an urgent GP appointment? Contact your GP practice online.
If you need medical help from your GP practice, contact them either online, by an app or by phone to be assessed.	Most GP appointments will now be via a phone call.

Most appointments with a GP, nurse or other healthcare professional will now be via a phone call	The NHS is still here for you.
It is important that you continue attend routine appointments, as normal, unless you have been told not to attend	The NHS is still here for you.
It is important that you and your family still have routine vaccinations. They protect against serious and potentially deadly illnesses. www.nhs.uk/vaccinations	Vaccinations protect us all.
If you are pregnant it is important that you still attend your antenatal appointments and continue to seek advice from your midwife www.nhs.uk/pregnancy-and- coronavirus	Worried? Contact your midwife.
If you are worried about your health or the health of your unborn baby, please contact your midwife. www.nhs.uk/pregnancy-and- coronavirus	Don't miss your antenatal appointments.