

GP Practice merger Horton Park Medical Practice and Parkside Medical Practice

Patient information sheet

Horton Park Medical Practice and Parkside Medical Practice are proposing that we will come together (merge) to form a single GP practice from Monday 1 July 2024. Please read this information sheet to find out more about our proposals and what this means for you. You **do not need to take any action** if you would like to stay registered with our practice.

We would however welcome your views in our short survey so that we can understand more about what matters to you and do our best to support you in the future.

Why are we merging?

As Dr Anwer Azam and Dr Jahan Azam are retiring, both GP practices feel that we can bring greater benefits for both our patients and colleagues by working together. Dr S Roohi Azam and the practice team at Parkside are partnering with Horton Park Medical Practice.

This will allow us to pool together our resources, so that we can continue to look at ways we can offer a wider choice to our patients as well as building resilience for our hard-working colleagues. We believe that the most effective way to further develop our patient services and care for our communities is to complete a full merger.

Individually we are both successful practices with similar patient centred approaches to care, and a shared belief in making a continued positive difference to our patients. By working together, we can more closely meet the health needs of our local population and overcome the challenges the NHS might face, such as staff shortages and increased demand for services.

Do I need to take any action before Monday 1 July 2024?

If you are a registered patient at Horton Park Medical Practice or Parkside Medical Practice, you will not need to take any action.

Will I still be able to make appointments at my usual GP practice?

All our patients from both practices will continue to access our services in the same way as they do now. You will continue to ring the same telephone numbers, see, and speak to the same receptionists, GPs and nursing staff, and attend the same building that you have always attended.

Will my usual surgery opening times stay the same?

Yes. We are not currently anticipating any changes to our core opening times. We will use your feedback to see if there are other changes we can make to help improve access for you.

If everything remains the same, why do you want to merge?

Over the coming months we will be identifying areas across both practices that could be improved to benefit our patients. We will provide updates on all of these changes and will let you know when they are to be made. We will be actively working with our practice patient groups to help support these changes to ensure they meet the needs of all our patients. We are asking patients to complete a short survey now, to help us understand what you may like to see in the future and what is important to you when using our services.

How will people working at the practice be affected?

We want to make the merger as seamless as possible for our colleagues in the same way we would like to make it seamless for you, our patients. We want to reassure you that everyone working at both practices will continue to do so. We do hope that in the future there will be opportunities for our colleagues to develop new skills and look for career development with us.

Will any service that is currently offered by my usual surgery be removed or stopped?

No. We do not anticipate services being removed or stopped. If anything, we anticipate that this merger will bring about a greater choice of services. We would value your feedback to help us think about future services we could offer our local community.

What are the benefits for patients?

We want to use the merger as an opportunity to think about how we can look at all the services we currently offer and see if there is more we can provide in the future. By merging together, we anticipate we will see the benefits listed below.

- **Continuity of care** we know this is important to you as we hear this through local and national surveys. You will still be able to see the same doctors and nurses in the same building.
- **More services for you to access** the new practice will offer a range of additional services – including:
 - Coils and Implants
 - BEEP (Bradford Encouraging Exercise in People)
 - Community Midwife
 - First Contact Physio
 - Specialist Diabetic Care
 - Joint injections and more - which will be offered to all our patients.
- **Ambitious future plans** following the merger we hope to be able to develop further local services available at the practice.

How will the new arrangement benefit GPs and nurses at the practice?

Our GPs, nurses, and other health and care professionals will all have access to a wider pool of clinical knowledge and expertise to draw upon and will have greater opportunities to specialise in areas such as diabetes, care of the elderly and urgent access. We will also be able to provide better cover for any planned or unplanned absences which we hope will alleviate the pressures felt by remaining staff. In addition, we should be able to reduce our reliance on locum or bank staff. We



anticipate that the merger will provide more opportunities for enhanced training and career development.

Who makes the final decision? Is it already a ‘given’ that it will go ahead?

The practices are in the proposal stage. After we have informed every one of the plans and given the chance to give feedback, the practices will produce a final report to be submitted to the commissioners (this is the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board in Bradford District and Craven). When a final decision has been made, we will update the websites with information and communicate this to our patients.

Will my feedback be listened to, and how can I share it?

We really value what our patients and wider partners tell us, and we want to make sure you can share your views with us. We are trying to provide the best possible service to meet our patient and community needs so your views and feedback are important to us. You can come along to one of our public meetings. You can also share your feedback with us through our questionnaire which is available by following this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LXK8Z5G>

When are the public meetings taking place?

We are also holding public meetings at Horton Park Medical Practice on 4th and 14th March and Parkside Medical Practice on 7th March and 14th March.

5th March 6.00-7.00pm

7th March 2024 11am-12pm

14th March 2024 1-2pm & 6-7pm

14th March 2024 1-2pm

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Can you please share the link to the online survey?

Yes, you can access the survey using the link below.

Please note the survey will be open until 12th April.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LXK8Z5G>

Thank you.

Dr L Harrison, Dr S R Azam, Dr R Amedzro, Dr T Clarke