

Banbury Cross Health Centre - South Bar House

The Location:

The practice cares for patients living in Banbury and the surrounding villages with a five mile radius. The practice has been formed from the merger of Banbury Health Centre and West Bar Surgery in 2019. It is run by Principal Medical Limited. There is site at South Bar House, very near the Horton Hospital and also a smaller site in the centre of Banbury. South Bar House is a purpose-built spacious premises which is shared with another practice on the floor below and a retail chemist. It is likely that Banbury Cross Health Centre will shortly also merge with the practice on the floor below.

The Patients:

There are some 25,000 patients registered with the practice from a mixed socio- economic profile and a relatively high level of deprivation. This may rise to nearer 40,000 if future mergers become reality. This will allow the exciting prospect of being able to develop new services and models of working for such a large practice population and the practice is fully embracing multidisciplinary working and the GP forward view.

There is an active patient participation group who produce quarterly newsletters, and support and maintain the website for the practice along with helping with other initiatives and patient questionnaires.

Services to Patients:

In addition to general medical services, offered via a traditional General Medical Services (GMS) Contract, the following services are provided on site:

Antenatal clinics, Asthma services, Baby clinics, Child health and immunization services Contraception, including IUCD fits and implants, Counselling, COPD care, Diabetic clinics, Drugs and alcohol counselling, Joint injections, Midwifery services, Minor surgery, Nasal cautery, Nurse Practitioners and ECP, Palliative care links with Katherine House Hospice, Phlebotomy, Pharmacists, Travel vaccinations and advice, Visiting service, Women's services, including cervical smears, Wound dressings and ulcer clinic.

The Practice Team:

The GP team are salaried and there are currently up to 17 GPs working across the 2 sites. The GPs have a variety of specialist clinical interests, including family planning, women's health, medical officer for an independent school, nursing home care, learning disability, drug abuse care, ENT, dermatology, minor surgery, joint injections, dive medicine, GP training and teaching medical students and foundation doctors.

Other than the doctors; there is a team of practice nurses, which includes nurse practitioners, practice nurses, healthcare assistants and a phlebotomist. The nurses are highly trained with independent nurse prescribers, and nurse specialists in chronic disease management. We also have a full time pharmacist team, have recently employed a physiotherapist and have a mental health worker all on site.

Other practice staff include a Practice Manager, receptionists of which there is a Reception Manager, a Training Manager, Secretaries/PAs to the doctors, Registration Clerks, Information Manager, Audit Co-ordinator, an Appointments Scheduler, Scanning Clerks and Notes Summarisers. The reception staff multi-task between reception, administrative, scanning and summarising duties. There is a low staff turnover and high morale.

The practice has close links with community staff who are also based at the same premises such as District Nurses, Health Visitors, Midwives, Counsellors and Physiotherapists.

GP Training:

There is a strong training ethos in the practice and a long history of GP training since the 1970s. We currently have three GP Trainers, Dr Stephen Haynes, Dr Ann Sanders, and Dr Nicky Elliott. The practice also has foundation doctors in training and 4th and 5th year Oxford medical students throughout the year. There is plenty of opportunity to teach others if that is an interest of the trainee. We also encourage trainees to take advantage of the extra services we offer; for example to get involved in implants, IUDs, joint injections, etc., if they have an interest.

The Premises:

The new premises for the main surgery opened in February 2009 and consist of an innovatively designed, spacious and bright building on four floors. The building was built and is owned by Assura.

The practice has a well-developed website (www.banburycrosshealthcentre.co.uk)