

Your private GP appointment at The Walcote Practice

Please see below to learn more about what to expect from, and how to get the most out of, your private GP appointment at The Walcote Practice.

Choosing a private GP at The Walcote Practice

If you have a specific health concern, and if possible, please highlight this briefly at the time of booking so that our receptionist can help you to book an appointment with the appropriate GP.

Should you prefer not to give such details, you of course do not need to give any information about your health concern/s whilst booking.

Booking your appointment length

At The Walcote Practice, you are able to book an appointment with a private GP for as long as you need.

The appointment length required will depend on the nature and number of your health concern/s. In order to achieve the best health outcomes, it is important that the GP is able to listen to and discuss your concerns fully, rather than rushing.

The doctor will advise you during your appointment if extra time is needed, and they will arrange for you to book a follow up appointment if required.

The list below shows our advised appointment lengths (these are guidelines only and may vary as per the above):

- First appointment 30 minutes
- Follow up review 20 minutes
- Appointment re: multiple health issues at least 30 minutes
- Appointment re: a mental health issue 40 mins
- Gynaecology appointment with multiple concerns or requiring an examination 30 minutes
- Vaccine appointment 10 minutes (multiple issues cannot be explored in a vaccine appointment)**
- Medicals please ask reception to advise depending upon the medical in question

**Please note that if you have previously attended The Walcote Practice for only a short 10 minute appointment (eg for a vaccine or for a Covid swab etc), however you now wish to explore a different health issue, that you will need to book a 30 minute appointment.

Before your appointment

As we are a private GP practice, our GPs do not have access to your NHS medical notes.

Where possible, it is therefore very helpful if you can please provide a summary of your relevant medical history, family health, current medications and doses, previous investigations etc either:

- Before your appointment by email to <u>info@thewalcotepractice.co.uk</u> if you are happy to do so (this is not obligatory) – the content of your email will be entered confidentially onto your patient record at The Walcote Practice before your appointment
- At the start of your appointment by giving the doctor a written copy of your health summary
- Verbally during your appointment you may therefore wish to note down these facts before
 your appointment and bring them with you on the day so that you have details to hand

As the doctor may not be able to explore all of your health concern/s in one appointment, it is best if you can consider what you would like to achieve from your initial appointment, and then from any subsequent appointments. For example, if you have a number of health concerns, please place these in order of priority to you.

During your appointment

Our experienced GP will listen and take the time to help you with your health concerns and/or goals.

They will take a relevant medical history, examine you if required, recommend any appropriate tests or investigations and advise on the best next steps and/or treatment.

Where applicable, the GP will let you know how and when you will receive your results, and whether you need to book a follow up appointment at this stage.

The doctor will raise an invoice and guide you back to reception to make payment at the end of your appointment, and they will also make a referral to a specialist if required and if you have agreed this during the appointment.

After the appointment

If required, the GP will contact you with the results of any tests or investigations, and they will advise you on the next steps for your healthcare.

Queries

If you have a query regarding any of the above, please contact us by phone on **01962 828715** or by email at **info@thewalcotepractice.co.uk**.