

Can students do tests or treat me?

No. Medical students are not qualified and cannot give you treatment or carry out procedures unsupervised.

Doctors will always be responsible for any prescriptions or requests for investigations.

Students are being trained to do simple procedures like taking blood. If the doctor has checked a student's ability, then they may be allowed to carry out a procedure under supervision.

Remember you can always refuse if you are worried!

Can I ask students to explain things to me?

Students often have more time and may be able to explain things in simple language.

However they are still learning so may not have answers to your questions. What they can do is listen to your questions and ask a doctor or nurse to give you answers.

Do students have access to my records?

It helps students if they can read the history of your problem and see what doctors have found. We assume that agreement to see a student implies permission to look at the records of your current problem. Students are, of course, bound by the same rules of

confidentiality as any doctor or nurse. If you don't want students to look at your records please let us know.

Students have no right to see the records of any other patients without their explicit permission.

Are my views about student behaviour useful?

Yes indeed! It is always helpful to have feedback about students. We like to know when they have been warm and helpful or if they have seemed cold or muddled.

Please tell the doctor or receptionist or write a note.

What happens if a student upsets me?

If this happens please let the doctor or someone in the surgery know at once.

Finally!

Students learn an enormous amount from the patients they meet. Thank you for your help. It could be very important in making sure we have good doctors in the future.

Waterhouses
Medical Practice

MEETING MEDICAL STUDENTS

Advice for Patients



MEDICAL STUDENTS IN THE PRACTICE

This is a teaching practice where medical students come to gain experience during their training. It is important for them to talk to people about their health and illnesses. This helps them to understand how illnesses affect people and how they cope. We would be grateful if you could help us in this teaching. However this is entirely voluntary.

No one will mind if you would rather not see a student, or if you change your mind or want the student to leave at any time. You can also refuse to see particular students, such as those of a different sex or those you have met outside the surgery.

Of course the care provided by the practice will not be affected in any way.

If you are prepared to see a medical student, this leaflet may help to answer some of your questions.

Remember you can always say "No" or change your mind and ask the student to leave at any time.

When might I see students?

You may be asked to see a student before an appointment with your doctor or to attend a student surgery. A doctor will always be supervising the student and will see you during the appointment time.

You may be asked to come in to the surgery specially to talk to students

You may be asked if students can visit you at home.

How will I be sure they are students?

They have identification, usually a photocard from the university or hospital.

If a student visits you at home, always check their identification.

What do I tell students?

If you are coming to the doctor about an illness or problem, then tell the students about it, how it affects your daily life, what worries you have and what you hope the doctor will do.

If you are seeing students by special arrangement, then they will want to know how your illness was discovered, how it has developed and how it affects you, your family or friends now.

It is important for them to hear things in your own words. If you know what is wrong with you then it is all right to share that with students.

Will they want to examine me?

Students need to learn how to examine patients and they also need to learn how to be sensitive.

Your doctor may ask if a student can examine you during a consultation. If it is too painful or embarrassing you can always refuse.

If a student sees you before a doctor, they may ask to examine you first. We hope that you would be prepared for them to look at throat or ears, hands or feet.

You may be asked to undress so that a student can examine your trunk or limbs; this is up to you. No one will mind if you refuse or want to wait for the doctor.

Students should not ask to do a sensitive or embarrassing examination unless a doctor is present.