



GP
SURGERY
Join the queue

The future of general practice?

- Waiting times to see a GP or practice nurse are soaring
- Funding for general practice is plummeting
- Up to 100 practices in the UK — serving 700,000 patients — face closure over the next few months

Don't let this be the future of general practice — sign this petition TODAY!



PUT PATIENTS FIRST
BACK GENERAL PRACTICE



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Petition to save general practice

Despite carrying out 90% of all NHS patient contacts, general practice only receives 8.39% of the NHS budget in the UK — an historic low. By 2017, this is projected to plunge to just 7.29%.

As a result, general practice is facing a growing crisis.

Due to the sheer volume of GP workloads, in this year alone, patients will have to wait longer than a week to see their GP on at least 27m occasions.

And, according to a poll carried out in March, more than three fifths of the public now believe that the number of patient consultations carried out by GPs — up to 60 per day — is threatening the level of patient care.

To protect high quality services for all patients, we the undersigned, call on the Prime Minister to increase the share of the NHS budget spent on general practice in England to 11% by 2017.

This shift in funding would enable general practice to deliver:

- Shorter waiting times for appointments and more flexible opening hours
- Longer consultations, especially for people with long term conditions
- More opportunity for patients to see a GP who knows them
- Better care co-ordination and planning, especially for the elderly and those with complex needs
- Positive benefits for the NHS as a whole, reducing pressure on hospitals

GP surgeries sit at the heart of local communities. We demand that the Government acts now to ensure practices have the resources they need to continue to provide the high quality care patients deserve.

Please send your completed petition by 15 August 2014 to:

Royal College of General Practitioners, Stephenson Way, LONDON, NW1 2FB

Key campaign messages

- General practice conducts 90% of patient contacts in the NHS for just 8.39% of the UK NHS budget.
- Between 2005/06 and 2011/12, the UK NHS budget grew by around 18% in real terms, but funding for general practice fell by approximately 8%.
- According to Deloitte, if current trends continue, general practice will only receive 7.29% of the UK NHS budget by 2017/18.
- The number of patient consultations in the UK is estimated to rise to an historic high of at least 441m by 2017/18 – up from at least 388m in 2013/14 and 327m in 2008/09.
- Based on the current trajectory, Deloitte says that by 2017/18 general practice in England is projected to receive just 7.28% of the NHS budget (down from 8.5%); Scotland will receive just 7.4% (down from 7.78%) and Wales will receive just 7.52% (down from 7.77%).
- Although funding projections are not available for Northern Ireland, more than three fifths of the public in Northern Ireland believe that the sheer volume of patient consultations being carried out by GPs is a threat to the level of patient care.



Royal College of
General Practitioners

Royal College of General Practitioners

30 Euston Square, London NW1 2FB

Telephone: 020 3188 7400

Email: campaigns@rcgp.org.uk

Web: www.rcgp.org.uk



National Association for Patient Participation

19 Harvey Road, Walton on Thames, Surrey KT12 2PZ

Telephone: 01932 242350

Email: admin@napp.org.uk

Web: www.napp.org.uk



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