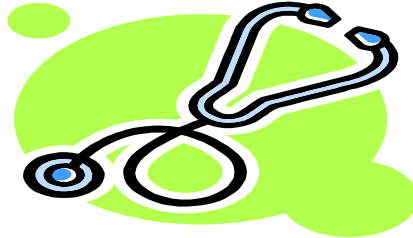


Teaching role of the Practice

The practice has a long standing tradition of teaching both medical students and young doctors. This role is increasing and we thought it might be interesting for you to know exactly what our involvement in teaching means.



The practice is approved for the training of General Practitioner Registrars. These are fully qualified Doctors who have already worked for a minimum of 3 years in a variety of hospital specialities since they qualified. Many of them are more experienced than that and by the time they join us they are at the same stage of training as a hospital Registrar. They spend a year with us in the practice during which time they have regular teaching sessions and their work is closely scrutinised. They have to pass a number of exams and assessments in order to become fully fledged GPs.

One of the most important areas of training is around their ability to communicate. This is examined by looking at video recordings of real consultations. You may, from time to time, be asked when making an appointment, if you would give permission for a video to be made of your discussion with the Doctor. You will be asked to give written consent for this and can be assured that if at any time you wish to change your mind, even after the tape is recorded, you are free to do so.

Dr Adey is the approved trainer within the Practice. He and the entire practice team, and the work that goes on in the Practice, is regularly scrutinised in order for us to maintain our approval as a training practice. Indeed, we have to demonstrate higher levels of practice performance than a non training practice. At our last assessment we were awarded the highest possible rating "excellent" overall.

Our other teaching role is by appointment with the University of Liverpool Medical School and involves the teaching of undergraduate medical students. Dr Dancy is involved in teaching fourth year medical students.

Again, from time to time, you may be asked to see a medical student, either in conjunction with your Doctor or Nurse or whilst waiting to see your Doctor, when the students will present your case.

It is clearly very important that Doctors in training have an opportunity to see a full variety of patients with a wide spectrum of problems and illnesses. We are very grateful to those of you who are prepared to give time talking to students and when appropriate, allowing them to examine you.

Teaching and training, as you see, takes up a large part of our regular weekly work. We feel that the practice in general and you as patients in particular benefit from all this work, which keeps us on our toes and ensures that we as medical educators keep ourselves up to date at all times.