

# John Street Medical Practice

## Quality Report

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This report describes our judgement of the quality of care at this service. It is based on a combination of what we found when we inspected, information from our ongoing monitoring of data about services and information given to us from the provider, patients, the public and other organisations.

## Ratings

Overall rating for this service		Good	
Are services safe?		Good	
Are services effective?		Good	
Are services caring?		Good	
Are services responsive to people's needs?		Good	
Are services well-led?		Good	

# Summary of findings

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## Overall summary

### Letter from the Chief Inspector of General Practice

John Street Medical Practice was acquired by Hope Citadel Healthcare in October 2016. We carried out an announced comprehensive inspection on 18 July 2017. Overall the practice is rated as good.

Our key findings across all the areas we inspected were as follows:

- There was an open and transparent approach to safety and a system in place for reporting and recording significant events.
- The practice had clearly defined systems to minimise risks to patient safety.
- Staff were aware of current evidence based guidance. Staff had been trained to provide them with the skills and knowledge to deliver effective care and treatment.
- Some members of staff were trained translators in response to the ethnicity of the practice population.

- Results from the national GP patient survey showed patients were treated with compassion, dignity and respect and were involved in their care and decisions about their treatment.
- Information about services and how to complain was available.
- Patients we spoke with said they found it easy to make an appointment with a GP with urgent appointments available the same day.
- The practice had good facilities and was well equipped to treat patients and meet their needs.
- There was a clear leadership structure and staff felt supported by management. The practice proactively sought feedback from staff and patients, which it acted on.
- The provider was aware of the requirements of the duty of candour.

We saw areas of outstanding practice:

# Summary of findings

- The practice employed focused care workers who were able to provide social and medical care for patients in need. Staff were also able to access counsellors if they required them.
- English lessons for female patients were provided by the focused care worker which would build confidence and help patients integrate into the community and increase employability.

The area where the provider should make improvement is:

- Identify patients caring for others and offer support as required.

**Professor Steve Field CBE FRCP FFPH FRCGP**  
Chief Inspector of General Practice

# Summary of findings

## The five questions we ask and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

### Are services safe?

The practice is rated as good for providing safe services.

Good



- From the sample of documented examples we reviewed, we found there was an effective system for reporting and recording significant events; lessons were shared to make sure action was taken to improve safety in the practice. When things went wrong patients were informed as soon as practicable, received reasonable support, truthful information, and a written apology. They were told about any actions to improve processes to prevent the same thing happening again.
- The practice had introduced clearly defined systems and processes to minimise risks to patient safety. As the provider was new to the practice these processes had yet to be embedded, however staff were aware of them.
- Staff demonstrated that they understood their responsibilities and all had received training on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults relevant to their role.
- The practice had adequate arrangements to respond to emergencies and major incidents.

### Are services effective?

The practice is rated as good for providing effective services.

Good



- Data from the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QoF) which showed patient outcomes was not available as this is a new provider. The practice was able to provide up to date data held on their clinical system which showed mixed results for QoF when compared to local and national averages.
- Staff were aware of current evidence based guidance.
- Clinical audits demonstrated quality improvement.
- Staff had the skills and knowledge to deliver effective care and treatment.
- There was a plan in place for all GPs and staff to receive 360 degree appraisals and personal development plans in the coming months.
- Staff worked with other health care professionals to understand and meet the range and complexity of patients' needs.
- End of life care was coordinated with other services involved.
- The practice had routine appointment times with a GP of 13 minutes. The practice had yet to measure the benefit and impact that this had on its patients.

# Summary of findings

## Are services caring?

The practice is rated as good for providing caring services.

- Data from the national GP patient survey showed mixed results when patients rated the practice for several aspects of care.
- Survey information we reviewed showed that patients said they were treated with compassion, dignity and respect and they were involved in decisions about their care and treatment.
- The practice held a register of patients and their families receiving focussed care. All patients on this register had personalised health and social care plans.
- Information for patients about the services available was accessible.
- We saw staff treated patients with kindness and respect, and maintained patient and information confidentiality.

Good



## Are services responsive to people's needs?

The practice is rated as good for providing responsive services.

- The practice understood its population profile and had used this understanding to meet the needs of its population, for example three of the receptionists were trained translators and were used to translate when appropriate as most of its patients were Bengali speaking.
- The practice provided a class for female patients to learn English which would build confidence and help patients integrate into the community and increase employability.
- The practice had a good skill mix of staff which included a nurse prescriber and focused care workers who were able to provide social and medical care for patients in need. Staff were also able to access counsellors, if they required them.
- The practice took account of the needs and preferences of patients with life-limiting conditions, including patients with a condition other than cancer and patients living with dementia.
- Patients we spoke with said they found it easy to make an appointment with a named GP and there was continuity of care, with urgent appointments available the same day.
- The practice had good facilities and was well equipped to treat patients and meet their needs.
- Information about how to complain was available and evidence from six examples reviewed showed the practice responded quickly to issues raised. Learning from complaints was shared with staff and other stakeholders.

Good



## Are services well-led?

The practice is rated as good for being well-led.

Good



# Summary of findings

- Hope Citadel Healthcare had acquired the practice in October 2016 and had a clear vision and strategy to deliver high quality care and promote good outcomes for patients. Staff were clear about the vision and their responsibilities in relation to it.
- There was a clear leadership structure and staff felt supported by management. The provider had introduced new policies and procedures to govern activity and held regular governance meetings.
- An overarching governance framework supported the delivery of the strategy and good quality care. This included arrangements to monitor and improve quality and identify risk.
- Staff had received inductions and attended staff meetings and training opportunities. Appraisals were planned to take place in the coming months.
- The provider was aware of the requirements of the duty of candour.
- The GPs and management encouraged a culture of openness and honesty. The practice had systems for being aware of notifiable safety incidents and sharing the information with staff and ensuring appropriate action was taken.
- The practice proactively sought feedback from staff and patients and we saw examples where feedback had been acted on. The practice were attempting to recruit for a patient participation group but to date had received no responses.
- There was a focus on continuous learning and improvement at all levels. Staff training was a priority and was built into staff rotas.
- GPs who were skilled in specialist areas used their expertise to offer additional services to patients.
- Hope Citadel employed a counsellor who was available to offer a confidential counselling service to patients and support to the GPs and staff.

# Summary of findings

## The six population groups and what we found

We always inspect the quality of care for these six population groups.

### Older people

The practice is rated as good for the care of older people.

Good



- The practice had very few elderly patients with 7% of the total patient list aged over 65 years.
- Staff were able to recognise the signs of abuse in older patients and knew how to escalate any concerns.
- The practice offered proactive, personalised care to meet the needs of the older patients in its population.
- The practice was responsive to the needs of older patients, and offered home visits and urgent appointments for those with enhanced needs.
- The practice identified at an early stage older patients who may need palliative care as they were approaching the end of life. It involved older patients in planning and making decisions about their care, including their end of life care.
- The practice followed up on older patients discharged from hospital and ensured that their care plans were updated to reflect any extra needs.
- Where older patients had complex needs, the practice shared summary care records with local care services.
- Older patients were provided with health promotional advice and support to help them to maintain their health and independence for as long as possible.
- The provider held internal meetings regarding these patients but they were not attended by any other agency despite being invited.

### People with long term conditions

The practice is rated as good for the care of people with long-term conditions.

Good



- Nursing staff had lead roles in long-term disease management and patients at risk of hospital admission were identified as a priority.
- Data from the Quality and Outcomes Framework was unavailable for this new provider as the practice had been acquired in October 2016, published data would not be available until late 2018. However, they were able to show us that 91% of diabetic patients had a record of having had a foot examination and risk classification within the preceding twelve months compared to the national average of 87%.

# Summary of findings

- The practice followed up on patients with long-term conditions discharged from hospital and ensured that their care plans were updated to reflect any additional needs.
- There were emergency processes for patients with long-term conditions who experienced a sudden deterioration in health.
- All these patients had a named GP and there was a system to recall patients for a structured annual review to check their health and medicines needs were being met. For those patients with the most complex needs, the named GP worked with relevant health and care professionals to deliver a multidisciplinary package of care.

## Families, children and young people

The practice is rated as good for the care of families, children and young people.

- From the sample of documented examples we reviewed we found there were systems to identify and follow up children living in disadvantaged circumstances and who were at risk, for example, children and young people who had a high number of accident and emergency (A&E) attendances.
- Care plans were in place for complex families and the practice worked closely with other agencies to resolve issues such as substance abuse, housing, debt, domestic violence and mental health. The practice were able to give us examples of positive outcomes for this group of patients.
- Immunisation rates were relatively high for all standard childhood immunisations.
- Patients told us, on the day of inspection, that children and young people were treated in an age-appropriate way and were recognised as individuals.
- The practice provided support for premature babies and their families following discharge from hospital.
- Appointments were available outside of school hours and the premises were suitable for children and babies.
- The practice worked with midwives, health visitors and school nurses to support this population group. For example, in the provision of ante-natal, post-natal and child health surveillance clinics.
- The practice had emergency processes for acutely ill children and young people and for acute pregnancy complications.

Good



## Working age people (including those recently retired and students)

The practice is rated as good for the care of working age people (including those recently retired and students).

Good





# Summary of findings

- The needs of these populations had been identified and the practice had adjusted the services it offered to ensure these were accessible, flexible and offered continuity of care.
- The practice was proactive in offering online services as well as a full range of health promotion and screening that reflects the needs for this age group.
- The focused care worker assisted families with housing issues and the completion of documentation.
- English speaking classes were held for female patients which would help build confidence and increase chances of employability including volunteer roles.

## People whose circumstances may make them vulnerable

The practice is rated as good for the care of people whose circumstances may make them vulnerable.

- The practice held a register of patients living in vulnerable circumstances including homeless people, asylum seekers, travellers and those with a learning disability.
- The practice staff included a focused care worker who provided social and medical care to its patients in need of this support. The practice were able to provide examples where they had assisted patients in finding homes and helped other patients with the benefits system.
- End of life care was delivered in a coordinated way which took into account the needs of those whose circumstances may make them vulnerable.
- The practice offered longer appointments for patients with a learning disability.
- The practice regularly worked with other health care professionals in the case management of vulnerable patients.
- The practice had information available for vulnerable patients about how to access various support groups and voluntary organisations.
- Staff interviewed knew how to recognise signs of abuse in children, young people and adults whose circumstances may make them vulnerable. They were aware of their responsibilities regarding information sharing, documentation of safeguarding concerns and how to contact relevant agencies in normal working hours and out of hours.

Good



## People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia)

The practice is rated as good for the care of people experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia).

Good



# Summary of findings

- The practice carried out advance care planning for patients living with dementia.
- The practice told us that to date, 24% of patients diagnosed with dementia who had their care reviewed in a face to face meeting in the last 12 months, which was lower than the national average of 83%.
- The practice specifically considered the physical health needs of patients with poor mental health and dementia.
- The provider employed a counsellor for patients who required this service.
- The practice had a system for monitoring repeat prescribing for patients receiving medicines for mental health needs.
- The practice told us that to date 76% of patients experiencing poor mental health had an agreed care plan which was below the national average of 89%.
- The practice regularly worked with multi-disciplinary teams in the case management of patients experiencing poor mental health, including those living with dementia.
- Patients at risk of dementia were identified and offered an assessment.
- The practice had information available for patients experiencing poor mental health about how they could access various support groups and voluntary organisations.
- The practice had a system to follow up patients who had attended accident and emergency where they may have been experiencing poor mental health.
- Staff interviewed had a good understanding of how to support patients with mental health needs and dementia.

# Summary of findings

## What people who use the service say

The national GP patient survey results were published in July 2017. The results showed the practice was performing in line with local and national averages. 378 survey forms were distributed and 60 were returned. This was a completion rate of 16% and represented 2% of the practice's patient list.

- 82% of patients described the overall experience of this GP practice as good compared with the CCG average of 85% and the national average of 85%.
- 73% of patients described their experience of making an appointment as good compared with the CCG average of 72% and the national average of 73%.
- 63% of patients said they would recommend this GP practice to someone who has just moved to the local area compared to the national average of 77%.

As part of our inspection we also asked for CQC comment cards to be completed by patients prior to our inspection. We received 42 comment cards 38 of which were positive about the standard of care received. Others commented that they would prefer to see the same doctor but had seen a different one on each visit.

The results of a recent family and friends survey showed patients comments were mostly positive about the standard of care received.

We spoke with three patients during the inspection. All three patients said they were satisfied with the care they received and thought staff were approachable, committed and caring.

## Areas for improvement

### Action the service **SHOULD** take to improve

- Identify patients caring for others and offer support as required.

## Outstanding practice

- The practice employed focused care workers who were able to provide social and medical care for patients in need. Staff were also able to access counsellors if they required them.
- English lessons for female patients were provided by the focused care worker which would build confidence and help patients integrate into the community and increase employability.

# John Street Medical Practice

## Detailed findings

### Our inspection team

#### Our inspection team was led by:

A CQC Lead Inspector and included a GP specialist adviser.

## Background to John Street Medical Practice

John Street Medical Practice, 1 John Street, Oldham, OL8 1DF provides primary medical services in Oldham from Monday to Saturday?.

The practice is now part of Hope Citadel Healthcare who provide primary care services in other practices in the Greater Manchester area. The practice benefits from high level support and leadership from the provider as well as access to human resources.

The surgery is open :

Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm.

Saturday 8am to 12 noon.

John Street Medical Practice is situated within the geographical area of Oldham Commissioning Group (CCG).

The practice has an Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) contract. The APMS contract is the contract between general practices and NHS England for delivering primary care services to local communities.

John Street Medical Practice is responsible for providing care to 3761 patients.

The practice consists of one female GP and is currently being supported by a female advanced nurse practitioner,

a focused care worker, practice nurse and health care assistant. The practice is supported by a patient services manager and an administration team that includes receptionists.

The provider was using locum GPs as they were in the process of recruiting additional GPs and nurse.

When the practice is closed patients are told to ring 111 which is the out of hour's service provided by NHS 111.

The practice belongs to a group of local practices who provide access to a GP and practice nurse at evenings and weekends.

## Why we carried out this inspection

We carried out a comprehensive inspection of this service under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. The inspection was planned to check whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008, to look at the overall quality of the service, and to provide a rating for the service under the Care Act 2014.

## How we carried out this inspection

Before visiting, we reviewed a range of information we hold about the practice. We carried out an announced visit on 18 July 2017. During our visit we:

# Detailed findings

- Spoke with a range of staff including a GP, advanced nurse practitioner, practice nurse, practice delivery manager, focussed care worker, patient services manager, a receptionist and spoke with patients who used the service.
- Observed how patients were being cared for in the reception area.
- Reviewed a sample of the personal care or treatment records of patients.
- Reviewed comment cards where patients and members of the public shared their views and experiences of the service.
- Looked at information the practice used to deliver care and treatment plans.

To get to the heart of patients' experiences of care and treatment, we always ask the following five questions:

- Is it safe?
- Is it effective?
- Is it caring?

- Is it responsive to people's needs?
- Is it well-led?

We also looked at how well services were provided for specific groups of people and what good care looked like for them. The population groups are:

- older people
- people with long-term conditions
- families, children and young people
- working age people (including those recently retired and students)
- people whose circumstances may make them vulnerable
- people experiencing poor mental health (including people living with dementia).

Please note that when referring to information throughout this report, for example any reference to the Quality and Outcomes Framework data, this relates to the most recent information available to the CQC at that time.

# Are services safe?

## Our findings

### Safe track record and learning

There was a system for reporting and recording significant events.

- Staff told us they would inform the practice manager of any incidents and there was a recording form available on the practice's computer system. The incident recording form supported the recording of notifiable incidents under the duty of candour. (The duty of candour is a set of specific legal requirements that providers of services must follow when things go wrong with care and treatment).
- We reviewed safety records, incident reports, patient safety alerts and minutes of meetings where significant events were discussed. The practice carried out a thorough analysis of the significant events.
- We saw evidence that lessons were shared and action was taken to improve safety in the practice. For example, following a significant event the provider had set up a system for the daily check and recording of the temperature of the vaccine fridge.
- The practice also monitored trends in significant events and evaluated any action taken. Significant events were shared throughout Hope Citadel group to ensure lessons were learnt by all.

### Overview of safety systems and processes

The practice had clearly defined and embedded systems, processes and practices in place to minimise risks to patient safety.

- Arrangements for safeguarding reflected relevant legislation and local requirements. Policies were accessible to all staff. The policies clearly outlined who to contact for further guidance if staff had concerns about a patient's welfare. There was a lead member of staff for safeguarding. Weekly meetings were held with the focussed care worker who added the patient and their families to the vulnerable patient register.
- Staff interviewed demonstrated they understood their responsibilities regarding safeguarding and had received training on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults relevant to their role. GPs were trained to child protection or child safeguarding level three.
- A notice in the waiting room advised patients that chaperones were available if required. All staff who

acted as chaperones were trained for the role and had received a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. (DBS checks identify whether a person has a criminal record or is on an official list of people barred from working in roles where they may have contact with children or adults who may be vulnerable).

The practice maintained appropriate standards of cleanliness and hygiene.

- We observed the premises to be clean and tidy. There were cleaning schedules and monitoring systems in place.
- The lead advanced nurse practitioner with Hope Citadel Healthcare was the infection prevention and control (IPC) clinical lead who liaised with the local infection prevention teams to keep up to date with best practice. There was an IPC protocol and staff had received up to date training. Annual IPC audits were undertaken and we saw evidence that action was taken to address any improvements identified as a result.

The arrangements for managing medicines, including emergency medicines and vaccines, in the practice minimised risks to patient safety (including obtaining, prescribing, recording, handling, storing, security and disposal).

- There were processes for handling repeat prescriptions which included the review of high risk medicines.
- Repeat prescriptions were signed before being handed to patients and there was a reliable process to ensure this occurred.
- The practice had carried out some medicines audits, with the support of the local clinical commissioning group pharmacy teams, to ensure prescribing was in line with best practice guidelines for safe prescribing. They had a plan for these to be completed cycles and to carry out regular audits in the future.
- Blank prescription forms and pads were securely stored and there were systems to monitor their use.
- One of the nurses had qualified as an Independent Prescriber and could therefore prescribe medicines for clinical conditions within their expertise. They received mentorship and support from the medical staff for this extended role. Patient Group Directions had been adopted by the practice to allow nurses to administer

# Are services safe?

medicines in line with legislation. Health care assistants were trained to administer vaccines and medicines and patient specific prescriptions or directions from a prescriber were produced appropriately.

We reviewed three personnel files and found appropriate recruitment checks had been undertaken prior to employment. For example, proof of identification, evidence of satisfactory conduct in previous employments in the form of references, qualifications, registration with the appropriate professional body and the appropriate checks through the DBS.

## Monitoring risks to patients

There were procedures for assessing, monitoring and managing risks to patient and staff safety.

- There was a health and safety policy available.
- The practice had an up to date fire risk assessment and carried out regular fire drills. There were designated fire marshals within the practice. There was a fire evacuation plan which identified how staff could support patients with mobility problems to vacate the premises.
- All electrical and clinical equipment was checked and calibrated to ensure it was safe to use and was in good working order.
- The practice had a variety of other risk assessments to monitor safety of the premises such as control of substances hazardous to health and infection control and legionella (Legionella is a term for a particular bacterium which can contaminate water systems in buildings).

- There were arrangements for planning and monitoring the number of staff and mix of staff needed to meet patients' needs. There was a rota system to ensure enough staff were on duty to meet the needs of patients. Staff in other practices run by Hope Citadel were able to cross cover should it be required.

## Arrangements to deal with emergencies and major incidents

The practice had adequate arrangements to respond to emergencies and major incidents.

- There was an instant messaging system on the computers in all the consultation and treatment rooms which alerted staff to any emergency.
- All staff received annual basic life support training and there were emergency medicines available in the treatment room.
- The practice had a defibrillator available on the premises and oxygen with adult and children's masks. A first aid kit and accident book were available.
- Emergency medicines were easily accessible to staff in a secure area of the practice and all staff knew of their location. All the medicines we checked were in date and stored securely.
- The practice had a comprehensive business continuity plan for major incidents such as power failure or building damage. The plan included emergency contact numbers for staff.

# Are services effective?

(for example, treatment is effective)

## Our findings

### Effective needs assessment

Clinicians were aware of relevant and current evidence based guidance and standards, including National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) best practice guidelines.

- The practice had systems to keep all clinical staff up to date. Staff had access to guidelines from NICE and used this information to deliver care and treatment that met patients' needs.
- The practice monitored that these guidelines were followed through risk assessments, audits and random sample checks of patient records.

### Management, monitoring and improving outcomes for people

The practice used the information collected for the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) and performance against national screening programmes to monitor outcomes for patients. (QOF is a system intended to improve the quality of general practice and reward good practice). The most recent results (2017/18) on the practice clinical system showed that they had achieved to date 79% of the total number of points available, compared with the year end national average of 95%.

- Performance for diabetes related indicators was similar to the CCG and national averages. The practice were able to show us that 91% of diabetic patients had a record of having had a foot examination and risk classification within the preceding twelve months compared to the national average of 87%.
- Performance for mental health related indicators was lower than the CCG and national averages. The practice were able to show us that 76% of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses had a comprehensive, agreed care plan documented in their record in the preceding 12 months which was lower than the national average of 88%.

There was evidence of quality improvement including clinical audit:

- There had been two clinical audits commenced since the provider acquired the practice in October 2016, one of these was a completed audit where the improvements made were implemented and monitored.
- Findings were used by the practice to improve services. For example, recent action taken as a result included reviewing all female patients over the age of 35 who were prescribed a combined oral contraceptive and ensuring that local prescribing guidelines were being followed.

Information about patients' outcomes was going to be used to make improvements.

### Effective staffing

Evidence reviewed showed that staff had the skills and knowledge to deliver effective care and treatment.

- The practice had an induction programme for all newly appointed staff. This covered such topics as safeguarding, infection prevention and control, fire safety, health and safety and confidentiality.
- The practice could demonstrate how they ensured role-specific training and updating for relevant staff. For example, for those reviewing patients with long-term conditions.
- Staff administering vaccines and taking samples for the cervical screening programme had received specific training which had included an assessment of competence. Staff who administered vaccines could demonstrate how they stayed up to date with changes to the immunisation programmes, for example by access to on line resources and discussion at practice meetings.
- The learning needs of staff were identified through interviews held with staff when Hope Citadel Healthcare acquired the practice in October 2016. They planned to introduce a system of appraisals, meetings and reviews of practice development needs in the coming months. Staff had access to appropriate training to meet their learning needs and to cover the scope of their work. This included ongoing support, one-to-one meetings, coaching and mentoring, clinical supervision and facilitation and support for revalidating GPs and nurses.



# Are services effective?

## (for example, treatment is effective)

- Staff received training that included: safeguarding, fire safety awareness, basic life support and information governance. Staff had access to and made use of e-learning training modules and in-house training.

### Coordinating patient care and information sharing

The information needed to plan and deliver care and treatment was available to relevant staff in a timely and accessible way through the practice's patient record system and their intranet system.

- This included care and risk assessments, care plans, medical records and investigation and test results.
- From the sample of documented examples we reviewed we found that the practice shared relevant information with other services in a timely way, for example when referring patients to other services.

Staff worked together and with other health and social care professionals to understand and meet the range and complexity of patients' needs and to assess and plan ongoing care and treatment. This included when patients moved between services, including when they were referred, or after they were discharged from hospital. Information was shared between services, with patients' consent, using a shared care record. Meetings within the practice were taking place when care plans were reviewed and updated for patients with complex needs. The practice routinely invited other healthcare professionals to attend these meetings but as yet they had not attended.

The practice ensured that end of life care was delivered in a coordinated way which took into account the needs of different patients, including those who may be vulnerable because of their circumstances.

### Consent to care and treatment

Staff sought patients' consent to care and treatment in line with legislation and guidance.

- Staff understood the relevant consent and decision-making requirements of legislation and guidance, including the Mental Capacity Act 2005.
- When providing care and treatment for children and young people, staff carried out assessments of capacity to consent in line with relevant guidance.
- Where a patient's mental capacity to consent to care or treatment was unclear the GP or practice nurse assessed the patient's capacity and, recorded the outcome of the assessment.

- The process for seeking consent was monitored through patient records audits.

### Supporting patients to live healthier lives

The practice identified patients who may be in need of extra support and signposted them to the focussed care worker or other relevant services. For example:

- Patients receiving end of life care, carers, those at risk of developing a long-term condition and those requiring advice on their diet, smoking and alcohol cessation and patients requiring help with social care needs such as benefits or housing advice.
- A dietician was available on the premises and smoking cessation advice was available from a local support group.

The practice's uptake for the cervical screening programme was 76%, which was comparable with the national average of 81%.

Childhood immunisations were carried out in line with the national childhood vaccination programme. Uptake rates for the vaccines given were comparable to CCG and national averages. For example, rates for the vaccines given to under two year olds ranged from 88% to 94% and five year olds 91%.

- There was a policy to offer telephone or written reminders for patients who did not attend for their cervical screening test.
- The practice demonstrated how they encouraged uptake of the screening programme by using information in different languages and for those with a learning disability and they ensured a female sample taker was available.
- The practice also encouraged its patients to attend national screening programmes for bowel and breast cancer.
- There were failsafe systems to ensure results were received for all samples sent for the cervical screening programme and the practice followed up women who were referred as a result of abnormal results.
- Patients had access to appropriate health assessments and checks. These included health checks for new patients and NHS health checks for patients aged 40–74. Appropriate follow-ups for the outcomes of health assessments and checks were made, where abnormalities or risk factors were identified.

# Are services caring?

## Our findings

### Kindness, dignity, respect and compassion

During our inspection we observed that members of staff were courteous and very helpful to patients and treated them with dignity and respect.

- Curtains were provided in consulting rooms to maintain patients' privacy and dignity during examinations, investigations and treatments.
- Consultation and treatment room doors were closed during consultations; conversations taking place in these rooms could not be overheard.
- Reception staff knew that if patients wanted to discuss sensitive issues or appeared distressed they could offer them a private room to discuss their needs.
- Patients could be treated by a clinician of the same sex.

All of the 42 patient Care Quality Commission comment cards we received were positive about the service experienced. Patients said they felt the practice offered an excellent service and staff were helpful, caring and treated them with dignity and respect.

We spoke with three patients who told us they were satisfied with the care provided by the practice and said their dignity and privacy was respected. Comments highlighted that staff responded compassionately when they needed help and provided support when required.

Results from the national GP patient survey showed patients felt they were treated with compassion, dignity and respect. The practice was in line with local and national averages for most of its satisfaction scores on consultations with GPs and nurses. For example:

- 82% of patients said the GP was good at listening to them compared with the clinical commissioning group (CCG) average of 88% and the national average of 89%.
- 73% of patients said the GP gave them enough time compared to the CCG average of 86% and the national average of 86%.
- 91% of patients said they had confidence and trust in the last GP they saw compared to the CCG average of 95% and the national average of 95%.
- 82% of patients said the last GP they spoke to was good at treating them with care and concern compared to the national average of 86%.

- 87% of patients said the nurse was good at listening to them compared with the clinical commissioning group (CCG) average of 92% and the national average of 91%.
- 92% of patients said the nurse gave them enough time compared with the CCG average of 93% and the national average of 92%.
- 92% of patients said they had confidence and trust in the last nurse they saw compared with the CCG average of 97% and the national average of 97%.
- 89% of patients said the last nurse they spoke to was good at treating them with care and concern compared to the national average of 91%.
- 85% of patients said they found the receptionists at the practice helpful compared with the CCG average of 88% and the national average of 87%.

### Care planning and involvement in decisions about care and treatment

Patients told us they felt involved in decision making about the care and treatment they received. They also told us they felt listened to and supported by staff and had sufficient time during consultations to make an informed decision about the choice of treatment available to them. Patient feedback from the comment cards we received was also positive and aligned with these views. We also saw that care plans were personalised.

Children and young people were treated in an age-appropriate way and recognised as individuals.

Results from the national GP patient survey patients responses were mixed when asked about their involvement in planning and making decisions about their care and treatment. For example:

- 80% of patients said the last GP they saw was good at explaining tests and treatments compared with the CCG average of 87% and the national average of 86%.
- 79% of patients said the last GP they saw was good at involving them in decisions about their care compared to the national average of 82%.
- 97% of patients said the last nurse they saw was good at explaining tests and treatments compared with the CCG average of 91% and the national average of 90%.
- 89% of patients said the last nurse they saw was good at involving them in decisions about their care compared to the national average of 85%.

## Are services caring?

The practice provided facilities to help patients be involved in decisions about their care:

- Staff told us that interpretation services were available for patients who did not have English as a first language. We saw notices in the reception areas informing patients this service was available. Patients were also told about multi-lingual staff who were trained translators who might be able to support them.
- Information leaflets were available in easy read format.
- The NHS e-referral service (formerly Choose and Book) was used with patients as appropriate. (NHS e-referral is a national electronic referral service which gives patients a choice of place, date and time for their first outpatient appointment in a hospital).

### **Patient and carer support to cope emotionally with care and treatment**

Patient information leaflets and notices were available in the patient waiting area which told patients how to access a number of support groups and organisations.

Information about support groups was also available on the practice website. Support for isolated or house-bound patients included signposting to relevant support and volunteer services.

The practice's computer system alerted GPs if a patient was also a carer. The practice had identified 29 patients as carers (0.78% of the practice list). The practice told us that patients in this ethnic group were reluctant to call themselves carers as they saw caring for family members as something that they expected to do. Written information was available to direct carers to the various avenues of support available to them. Older carers were offered timely and appropriate support.

A member of staff acted as a carers' champion to help ensure that the various services supporting carers were coordinated and effective.

Staff told us that if families had experienced bereavement, their usual GP contacted them. This call was either followed by a patient consultation at a flexible time and location to meet the family's needs and/or by giving them advice on how to find a support service.

# Are services responsive to people's needs?

(for example, to feedback?)

## Our findings

### Responding to and meeting people's needs

The practice understood its population profile and had used this understanding to meet the needs of its population:

- The practice offered extended hours on Saturday mornings between 8am and 12 noon for working patients who could not attend during normal opening hours.
- There were longer appointments available for patients with a learning disability.
- Home visits were available for older patients and patients who had clinical needs which resulted in difficulty attending the practice.
- The practice took account of the needs and preferences of patients with life-limiting progressive conditions. There were early and ongoing conversations with these patients about their end of life care as part of their wider treatment and care planning.
- Same day appointments were available for children and those patients with medical problems that require same day consultation.
- Patients were able to receive travel vaccines available on the NHS as well as those only available privately.
- There were accessible facilities, which included a hearing loop, and interpretation services available. Three members of staff were trained translators in response to the practice need.
- The practice has considered and implemented the NHS England Accessible Information Standard to ensure that disabled patients receive information in formats that they can understand and receive appropriate support to help them to communicate.
- The practice provided a class for female patients to learn English which would build confidence and help patients integrate into the community and increase employability.
- The practice had routine appointment times with a GP of 13 minutes. The practice had yet to measure the benefit and impact that this had on its patients.
- The practice had a good skill mix of staff which included a nurse prescriber and focused care workers who were able to provide social and medical care for patients in need. Staff were also able to access counsellors if they needed to.

### Access to the service

The practice was open between 8am and 6.30pm Monday to Friday. Appointments were from 8am to 11.30am every morning and 2.15pm to 5.15pm daily. Extended hours appointments were offered every Saturday morning between 8am and 12 noon. In addition to pre-bookable appointments that could be booked up to six weeks in advance, urgent appointments were also available for patients that needed them.

Results from the national GP patient survey showed that patient's satisfaction with how they could access care and treatment were mostly similar to local and national averages.

- 81% of patients were satisfied with the practice's opening hours compared with the clinical commissioning group (CCG) average of 79% and the national average of 76%.
- 65% of patients said they could get through easily to the practice by phone compared to the national average of 71%.
- 75% of patients said that the last time they wanted to speak to a GP or nurse they were able to get an appointment compared with the CCG average of 81% and the national average of 84%.
- 74% of patients said their last appointment was convenient compared with the CCG average of 79% and the national average of 81%.
- 73% of patients described their experience of making an appointment as good compared with the CCG average of 72% and the national average of 73%.
- 60% of patients said they don't normally have to wait too long to be seen compared with the CCG average of 59% and the national average of 58%.

Patients told us on the day of the inspection that they were able to get appointments when they needed them.

The practice had a system to assess:

- whether a home visit was clinically necessary; and
- the urgency of the need for medical attention.

Information of the request was passed to the GP for an informed decision to be made on prioritisation according clinical need. In cases where the urgency of need was so great that it would be inappropriate for the patient to wait

# Are services responsive to people's needs?

(for example, to feedback?)

for a GP home visit, alternative emergency care arrangements were made. Clinical and non-clinical staff were aware of their responsibilities when managing requests for home visits.

## Listening and learning from concerns and complaints

The practice had a system for handling complaints and concerns.

- Its complaints policy and procedures were in line with recognised guidance and contractual obligations for GPs in England.

- There was a designated responsible person who handled all complaints in the practice.
- We saw that information was available in the practice leaflet to help patients understand the complaints system.

We looked at six complaints received in the last 12 months and found that these were satisfactorily handled, dealt with in a timely way with openness and transparency when dealing with the complaint. Lessons were learned across the Hope Citadel Healthcare group from individual concerns and complaints. The practice planned to analyse trends and take action to improve the quality of care.

# Are services well-led?

Good 

(for example, are they well-managed and do senior leaders listen, learn and take appropriate action)

## Our findings

### Vision and strategy

The practice had a clear vision to deliver high quality care and promote good outcomes for patients.

- The practice had a mission statement which was displayed in the waiting areas and staff knew and understood the values.
- The practice had a clear strategy and supporting business plans which reflected the vision and values and were regularly monitored.

### Governance arrangements

The practice had an overarching governance framework which supported the delivery of the strategy and good quality care. This outlined the structures and procedures and ensured that:

- There was a clear staffing structure and that staff were aware of their own roles and responsibilities. GPs and nurses had lead roles in key areas.
- Company policies were implemented and made specific to the practice were available to all staff. These were updated and reviewed regularly by a central team.
- A comprehensive understanding of the performance of the practice was maintained. Practice meetings were held monthly which provided an opportunity for staff to learn about the performance of the practice.
- A programme of continuous clinical and internal audit was planned and was to be used to monitor quality and to make improvements.
- There were appropriate arrangements for identifying, recording and managing risks, issues and implementing mitigating actions.
- We saw evidence from minutes of a meetings structure that allowed for lessons to be learned and shared following significant events and complaints.

### Leadership and culture

On the day of inspection the management team in the practice demonstrated they had the experience, capacity and capability to run the practice and ensure high quality care. They told us they prioritised safe, high quality and compassionate care. Staff told us that management were approachable and always took the time to listen to all members of staff.

The provider was aware of and had systems to ensure compliance with the requirements of the duty of candour. (The duty of candour is a set of specific legal requirements that providers of services must follow when things go wrong with care and treatment). This included support training for all staff on communicating with patients about notifiable safety incidents. The management team encouraged a culture of openness and honesty. The practice kept written records of verbal interactions as well as written correspondence.

There was a clear leadership structure and staff felt supported by management.

- The practice planned to hold and minute a range of multi-disciplinary meetings. Other clinical teams such as district nurses and social workers were invited to meetings to monitor vulnerable patients. As yet they had not attended, however the practice held the meetings between themselves.
- Staff told us the practice held regular team meetings.
- Staff told us there was an open culture within the practice and they had the opportunity to raise any issues at team meetings and felt confident and supported in doing so. We noted team meetings were held every month. Minutes were comprehensive and were available for practice staff to view.
- Staff said they felt respected, valued and supported, particularly by the management team in the practice. All staff were involved in discussions about how to run and develop the practice, and all staff were encouraged to identify opportunities to improve the service delivered by the practice.

### Seeking and acting on feedback from patients, the public and staff

The practice encouraged and valued feedback from patients and staff. It proactively sought feedback from:

- the NHS Friends and Family test, complaints and compliments received
- staff generally through staff meetings and discussion. Staff told us they would not hesitate to give feedback and discuss any concerns or issues with colleagues and management.
- Staff told us they felt involved and engaged to improve how the practice was run. The practice were recruiting for members of a patient group but had received no responses to date.

# Are services well-led?

Good 

(for example, are they well-managed and do senior leaders listen, learn and take appropriate action)

## Continuous improvement

There was a focus on continuous learning and improvement at all levels within the practice. The practice team was forward thinking and part of local pilot schemes to improve outcomes for patients in the area.