

Crondall New Surgery

Inspection report

Redlands Lane Crondall Farnham Surrey GU10 5RF Tel: 01252850292 www.crondallnewsurgery.co.uk

Date of inspection visit: 10 April 2018 Date of publication: 07/06/2018

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 location	Good	
Are services safe?	Good	
Are services effective?	Good	
Are services caring?	Good	
Are services responsive?	Good	
Are services well-led?	Good	

Overall summary

This practice is rated as Good overall. (Previous

inspection October 2014 – Good)

The key questions are rated as:

Are services safe? - Good

Are services effective? - Good

Are services caring? - Good

Are services responsive? - Good

Are services well-led? - Good

We carried out an announced comprehensive inspection at Crondall New Surgery on 10 April 2018 as part of our inspection programme.

At this inspection we found:

- The practice had clear systems to manage risk so that safety incidents were less likely to happen. When incidents did happen, the practice learned from them and improved their processes.
- The practice routinely reviewed the effectiveness and appropriateness of the care it provided. It ensured that care and treatment was delivered according to evidence-based guidelines.
- Staff involved and treated patients with compassion, kindness, dignity and respect.
- Patients found the appointment system easy to use and reported that they were able to access care when they needed it.

- The practice had introduced a children's version of their friends and family test to capture feedback from this population group.
- There were policies and procedures in place for most topics however not all policies had been reviewed recently and the Information Governance policy was not available on the day of the inspection.
- Oversight of recording of staff training had been delegated to leaders of each team. Recording was inconsistent depending upon who the allocated lead
- Complaints were handled satisfactorily however there was not an overview of the learning from the complaints to share with staff.
- There was a strong focus on continuous learning and improvement at all levels of the organisation.

The areas where the provider **should** make improvements are:

- Consider ways to improve non-clinical staff awareness around Sepsis.
- Review the programme for updating policies and the availability of policies for staff.
- Review processes in place for receipt of Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency alerts and how these are shared with staff.

Professor Steve Field CBF FRCP FFPH FRCGP Chief Inspector of General Practice

Population group ratings

Older people	Good
People with long-term conditions	Good
Families, children and young people	Good
Working age people (including those recently retired and students)	Good
People whose circumstances may make them vulnerable	Good
People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia)	Good

Our inspection team

Our inspection team was led by a CQC lead inspector. The team included a GP specialist adviser.

Background to Crondall New Surgery

Crondall New Surgery is the registered provider and operates from one location of the same name. Crondall New Surgery is based at:

Redlands Lane, Crondall, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 5RF.

The practices website is: www.crondallnewsurgery.co.uk

Crondall New Surgery is regulated by the CQC to provide the following activities: diagnostic and screening, family planning, surgical procedures; treatment of disease, disorder and injury and maternity and midwifery services.

Crondall New Surgery is based in the village of Crondall near the town of Farnham. Crondall is on the border between the counties of Surrey and Hampshire. Crondall is a picturesque rural village with limited public transport links. The practice list size is approximately 5,200 patients. The practice's age profile reflects that of the national averages. The practice is located in an area of low deprivation.

The practice is able to offer dispensing services to those patients registered with the practice and who live more than one mile (1.6km) from their nearest pharmacy. Approximately 48% of registered patients are eligible for this service.

The practice has three GP partners and one salaried GP. There is one nurse practitioner and a further three practice nurses as well as a health care assistant. The clinical team are supported by a practice manager, administration manager, dispensing manager, reception manager and dispensers or receptionists.



Are services safe?

We rated the practice as good for providing safe services.

Safety systems and processes

The practice had clear systems to keep people safe and safeguarded from abuse.

- The practice had appropriate systems to safeguard children and vulnerable adults from abuse. All staff received up-to-date safeguarding and safety training appropriate to their role. All non-clinical staff had been trained to level 2 and clinical staff had been trained to level 3 for children's safeguarding. Staff knew how to identify and report concerns. Reports and learning from safeguarding incidents were available to staff. Staff who acted as chaperones were trained for their role and had received a 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.)
- Staff took steps, including working with other agencies, to protect patients from abuse, neglect, harassment, discrimination and breaches of their dignity and respect.
- The practice carried out appropriate staff checks at the time of recruitment and on an ongoing basis.
- There was an effective system to manage infection prevention and control.
- The practice had arrangements to ensure that facilities and equipment were safe and in good working order.
- On the day of the inspection the practice had a risk assessment in place for Legionella but were not undertaking regular hot or cold water temperature checks. Following the inspection the practice provided evidence to show that they had reviewed their process for monitoring water temperatures. The practice had created a water temperature recording matrix and updated their risk assessment to reflect the revised plan of undertaking water temperature checks on a regular basis.
- Arrangements for managing waste and clinical specimens kept people safe.

Risks to patients

There were adequate systems to assess, monitor and manage risks to patient safety.

- Arrangements were in place for planning and monitoring the number and mix of staff needed to meet patients' needs, including planning for holidays, sickness, busy periods and epidemics.
- There was an effective induction system for temporary staff tailored to their role.
- The practice was equipped to deal with medical emergencies and staff were suitably trained in emergency procedures.
- Staff understood their responsibilities to manage emergencies on the premises and to recognise those in need of urgent medical attention. Clinicians knew how to identify and manage patients with severe infections including sepsis. Administrative staff reported not having any instruction about sepsis awareness.
 However, the practice subsequently informed us that training had been provided externally in November 2017 and all staff attended and received a copy of the training booklets.
- When there were changes to services or staff the practice assessed and monitored the impact on safety.

Information to deliver safe care and treatment

Staff had the information they needed to deliver safe care and treatment to patients.

- The care records we saw showed that information needed to deliver safe care and treatment was available to staff. There was a documented approach to managing test results.
- The practice had systems for sharing information with staff and other agencies to enable them to deliver safe care and treatment.
- Clinicians made timely referrals in line with protocols.

Appropriate and safe use of medicines

The practice had reliable systems for appropriate and safe handling of medicines.

The systems for managing and storing medicines, including vaccines, medical gases, emergency medicines and equipment, minimised risks. The practice did not have a risk assessment in place for the absence of certain medicines in their emergency medicines box. The practice did not have any Diclofenac (an intramuscular injection for the purpose of pain relief or swelling) or any medicine, such as glucogel, treat patients who had low blood sugar levels. However, medicine was available in the dispensary for use if



Are services safe?

needed. Following the inspection the practice provided evidence to show that they had reviewed their emergency medicines processes which included creating a new protocol for treating patients with low blood sugar levels and included an algorithm for staff to follow when using the emergency medicines box for this function. The practice had also added glucogel to the

- Staff prescribed, administered or supplied medicines to patients and gave advice on medicines in line with current national guidance. The practice had reviewed its antibiotic prescribing and taken action to support good antimicrobial stewardship in line with local and national guidance.
- There were effective protocols for verifying the identity of patients during remote or online consultations.
- Patients' health was monitored in relation to the use of medicines and followed up on appropriately. Patients were involved in regular reviews of their medicines.
- Arrangements for dispensing medicines at the practice kept patients safe.

Track record on safety

The practice had a good track record on safety.

- There were comprehensive risk assessments in relation to safety issues.
- The practice monitored and reviewed activity. This helped it to understand risks and gave a clear, accurate and current picture of safety that led to safety improvements.

Lessons learned and improvements made

The practice learned and made improvements when things went wrong.

- Staff understood their duty to raise concerns and report incidents and near misses. Leaders and managers supported them when they did so.
- There were adequate systems for reviewing and investigating when things went wrong. The practice learned and shared lessons, identified themes and took action to improve safety in the practice.
- The practice acted on and learned from external safety events as well as patient and medicine safety alerts. Although the system for receiving alerts was inconsistent and varied depending upon what organisation the alert was coming from.

Please refer to the Evidence Tables for further information.



Are services effective?

We rated the practice and all of the population groups as good for providing effective services.

(Please note: Any Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) data relates to 2016/17. QOF is a system intended to improve the quality of general practice and reward good practice.)

Effective needs assessment, care and treatment

The practice had systems to keep clinicians up to date with current evidence-based practice. We saw that clinicians assessed needs and delivered care and treatment in line with current legislation, standards and guidance supported by clear clinical pathways and protocols.

- Patients' immediate and ongoing needs were fully assessed. This included their clinical needs and their mental and physical wellbeing.
- We saw no evidence of discrimination when making care and treatment decisions.
- Staff used appropriate tools to assess the level of pain in patients.
- Staff advised patients what to do if their condition got worse and where to seek further help and support.

Older people:

- Older patients who are frail or may be vulnerable received a full assessment of their physical, mental and social needs. The practice used an appropriate tool to identify patients aged 65 and over who were living with moderate or severe frailty. Those identified as being frail had a clinical review including a review of medication.
- Patients aged over 75 were invited for a health check. If necessary they were referred to other services such as voluntary services and supported by an appropriate care plan.
- The practice followed up on older patients discharged from hospital. It ensured that their care plans and prescriptions were updated to reflect any extra or changed needs.
- Staff had appropriate knowledge of treating older people including their psychological, mental and communication needs.
- The practice had access to the paramedic practitioner service run by the local federation. The paramedic practitioners conducted home visits of patients and reported to the GP for appropriate treatment.

- Patients with long-term conditions had a structured annual review to check their health and medicines needs were being met. For patients with the most complex needs, the GP worked with other health and care professionals to deliver a coordinated package of care.
- Staff who were responsible for reviews of patients with long term conditions had received specific training.
- GPs followed up patients who had received treatment in hospital or through out of hours services for an acute exacerbation of asthma.
- The practice was able to demonstrate how they identified patients with commonly undiagnosed conditions, for example diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), atrial fibrillation and hypertension.
- Exception reporting levels for long term conditions were better than local and national averages. A patient may be exception reported from data if they are ineligible for a clinical review or have not attended after numerous attempts to invite for review.
- The practice was higher than local and national averages for several clinical performance indicators relating to long term conditions such as diabetic care.

Families, children and young people:

- Childhood immunisations were carried out in line with the national childhood vaccination programme. Uptake rates for the vaccines given were below the target percentage of 90% for three of four indicators. The practice told us that there was a dip in their rates during this time period and that at the time of inspection they were achieving 90% or above for all indicators. Since the inspection the practice provided a copy of unpublished data to show that they were achieving the 90% target.
- The practice had arrangements to identify and review the treatment of newly pregnant women on long-term medicines. These patients were provided with advice and post-natal support in accordance with best practice guidance.
- The practice had arrangements for following up failed attendance of children's appointments following an appointment in secondary care or for immunisation.

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

People with long-term conditions:



Are services effective?

- The practice's uptake for cervical screening was 82%, which was in line with the 80% coverage target for the national screening programme.
- The practices' uptake for breast and bowel cancer screening was in line the national average.
- The practice had a process that if a patient did not attend for a screening appointment a note would be added to their patient records to make all clinicians aware. At the next appointment clinicians discussed the screening and signposted to relevant services or support as required.
- The practice had systems to inform eligible patients to have the meningitis vaccine, for example before attending university for the first time.
- Patients had access to appropriate health assessments and checks including NHS checks for patients aged 40-74. There was appropriate follow-up on the outcome of health assessments and checks where abnormalities or risk factors were identified.

People whose circumstances make them vulnerable:

- 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 held a register of patients living in vulnerable circumstances including homeless people, travellers and those with a learning disability.
- The practice had a system for vaccinating patients with an underlying medical condition according to the recommended schedule.
- All clinicians within the practice were in the process of having specific training around suicide prevention and awareness. A GP at the practice was leading on this and developing the programme for all GP practices across the local clinical commissioning group.

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

 The practice assessed and monitored the physical health of people with mental illness, severe mental illness, and personality disorder by providing access to health checks, interventions for physical activity, obesity, diabetes, heart disease, cancer and access to 'stop smoking' services. There was a system for following up patients who failed to attend for administration of long term medication.

- When patients were assessed to be at risk of suicide or self-harm the practice had arrangements in place to help them to remain safe.
- 99% of patients diagnosed with dementia had their care reviewed in a face to face meeting in the previous 12 months. This is above the national average.
- 94% of patients diagnosed with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses had a comprehensive, agreed care plan documented in the previous 12 months. This is comparable to the national
- The practice specifically considered the physical health needs of patients with poor mental health and those living with dementia. For example 94% of patients experiencing poor mental health had received discussion and advice about alcohol consumption. This is comparable to the national average.
- Patients at risk of dementia were identified and offered an assessment to detect possible signs of dementia. When dementia was suspected there was an appropriate referral for diagnosis.
- The practice offered annual health checks to patients with a learning disability.

Monitoring care and treatment

The practice had a comprehensive programme of quality improvement activity and routinely reviewed the effectiveness and appropriateness of the care provided. For example, the practice created a new protocol for prostate cancer testing in individuals who presented with lower urinary tract symptoms or requested a prostate specific antigen test. This was created in association with an urologist following an audit of all patients who had been screened for this and identifying what the outcome was for each patient. The protocol clearly documents what course of action to take and whether testing should or shouldn't be advised based upon a set of variables including age.

Where appropriate, clinicians took part in local and national improvement initiatives. For example, the practice participated in the NHS England GP Forward View Pharmacist Initiative. This initiative aimed to increase the number of pharmacists working within GP practices and increase patient access to a range of highly trained health professionals. The practice had supported two pharmacists to go through this programme.

· The practice used information about care and treatment to make improvements.



Are services effective?

• The practice was actively involved in quality improvement activity.

Effective staffing

Staff had the skills, knowledge and experience to carry out their roles.

- Staff had appropriate knowledge for their role, for example, to carry out reviews for people with long term conditions, older people and people requiring contraceptive reviews.
- Staff whose role included immunisation and taking samples for the cervical screening programme had received specific training and could demonstrate how they stayed up to date.
- The practice understood the learning needs of staff and provided protected time and training to meet them. Up to date records of skills, qualifications and training were maintained. Staff were encouraged and given opportunities to develop.
- The practice provided staff with ongoing support. This
 included an induction process, one-to-one meetings,
 appraisals, coaching and mentoring, clinical supervision
 and support for revalidation. The induction process for
 healthcare assistants included the requirements of the
 Care Certificate. The practice ensured the competence
 of staff employed in advanced roles by audit of their
 clinical decision making, including non-medical
 prescribing.
- There was a clear approach for supporting and managing staff when their performance was poor or variable.
- Dispensary staff were appropriately qualified and their competence was assessed regularly. They could demonstrate how they kept up to date.

Coordinating care and treatment

Staff worked together and with other health and social care professionals to deliver effective care and treatment.

- We saw records that showed that all appropriate staff, including those in different teams and organisations, were involved in assessing, planning and delivering care and treatment.
- The practice shared clear and accurate information with relevant professionals when deciding care delivery for people with long term conditions and when coordinating healthcare for care home residents. The

- shared information with, and liaised, with community services, social services and carers for housebound patients and with health visitors and community services for children who have relocated into the local area.
- Patients received coordinated and person-centred care.
 This included when they moved between services, when they were referred, or after they were discharged from hospital. The practice worked with patients to develop personal care plans that were shared with relevant agencies.
- 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.

Helping patients to live healthier lives

Staff were consistent and proactive in helping patients to live healthier lives.

- The practice identified patients who may be in need of extra support and directed them to relevant services.
 This included patients receiving end of life care, patients at risk of developing a long-term condition and carers.
- Staff encouraged and supported patients to be involved in monitoring and managing their own health, for example through social prescribing schemes.
- Staff discussed changes to care or treatment with patients and their carers as necessary.
- The practice supported national priorities and initiatives to improve the population's health, for example, stop smoking campaigns, tackling obesity.

Consent to care and treatment

The practice obtained consent to care and treatment in line with legislation and guidance.

- Clinicians understood the requirements of legislation and guidance when considering consent and decision making.
- Clinicians supported patients to make decisions. Where appropriate, they assessed and recorded a patient's mental capacity to make a decision.
- The practice monitored the process for seeking consent appropriately.

Please refer to the Evidence Tables for further information.



Are services caring?

We rated the practice as good for caring.

Kindness, respect and compassion

Staff treated patients with kindness, respect and compassion.

- Feedback from patients was positive about the way staff treat people.
- Staff understood patients' personal, cultural, social and religious needs.
- The practice gave patients timely support and information.

Involvement in decisions about care and treatment

Staff helped patients to be involved in decisions about care and treatment. They were aware of the Accessible Information Standard (a requirement to make sure that patients and their carers can access and understand the information that they are given.)

• Staff communicated with people in a way that they could understand, for example, communication aids and easy read materials were available.

- Staff helped patients and their carers find further information and access community and advocacy services. They helped them ask questions about their care and treatment.
- The practice proactively identified carers and supported
- The practice had a carers clinic in place and was run in association with the Princess Royal Trust for Carers in Hampshire. The practice hosts this clinic once per month and is designed to offer support, counselling and financial guidance for carers. Patients identified as carers were able to book appointments to attend this clinic via the reception desk.

Privacy and dignity

The practice respected patients' privacy and dignity.

- 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.
- Staff recognised the importance of people's dignity and respect. They challenged behaviour that fell short of

Please refer to the Evidence Tables for further information.



Are services responsive to people's needs?

We rated the practice, and all of the population groups, as good for providing responsive services.

Responding to and meeting people's needs

The practice organised and delivered services to meet patients' needs. It took account of patient needs and preferences.

- The practice understood the needs of its population and tailored services in response to those needs.
- Telephone and web GP consultations were available which supported patients who were unable to attend the practice during normal working hours.
- The facilities and premises were appropriate for the services delivered.
- The practice made reasonable adjustments when patients found it hard to access services.
- The practice provided effective care coordination for patients who are more vulnerable or who have complex needs. They supported them to access services both within and outside the practice.
- Care and treatment for patients with multiple long-term conditions and patients approaching the end of life was coordinated with other services.
- The practice provided dispensary services for people who needed additional support with their medicines, for example, weekly or monthly blister packs, large print labels. Approximately 48% of the practice population were eligible for using the dispensary.

Older people:

- All patients had a named GP who supported them in whatever setting they lived, whether it was at home or in a care home or supported living scheme. However the practice had chosen to not operate specific patient lists with regards to appointment availability in order to meet patient need and demand.
- The practice was responsive to the needs of older patients, and offered home visits and urgent appointments for those with enhanced needs. The GP and practice nurse also accommodated home visits for those who had difficulties getting to the practice due to limited local public transport availability.
- There was a medicines delivery service for housebound patients.

- The practice developed a close relationship with the nearest pharmacy to develop a repeat dispensing programme for a local care home that had many patients registered with the practice.
- The practice engaged in a local initiative for all care homes associated with the practice. All patients, registered with the practice that lived in the care homes received a review by a GP upon admission, a six monthly review and a post-hospital admission review.

People with long-term conditions:

- Patients with a long-term condition received an annual review to check their health and medicines needs were being appropriately met. Multiple conditions were reviewed at one appointment, and consultation times were flexible to meet each patient's specific needs.
- The practice held regular meetings with the local district nursing team to discuss and manage the needs of patients with complex medical issues.
- The practice used a text reminder service to patients' mobile phones to ensure patients were recalled for their annual flu vaccinations or for booked appointments.

Families, children and young people:

- 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. Records we looked at confirmed this.
- All parents or guardians calling with concerns about a child under the age of 18 were offered a same day appointment when necessary.
- The practice had adapted the friends and family test to include a child friendly version. This version was colourful and used pictures of a toy monkey to depict the level of satisfaction. There was also a box for the child to draw a picture of their visit.

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

- The needs of this population group had been identified and the practice had adjusted the services it offered to ensure these were accessible, flexible and offered continuity of care. For example, extended opening hours and Saturday appointments.
- The practice offered appointments from 8am on Wednesday mornings targeted at commuters.



Are services responsive to people's needs?

People whose circumstances make them vulnerable:

- The practice held a register of patients living in vulnerable circumstances including homeless people, travellers and those with a learning disability.
- People in vulnerable circumstances were easily able to register with the practice, including those with no fixed abode.
- The practice provided additional support for a patient with learning disabilities in completing forms and other social care or non-medical documentation.

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

- Staff interviewed had a good understanding of how to support patients with mental health needs and those patients living with dementia.
- The practice held GP led dedicated monthly mental health and dementia clinics. Patients who failed to attend were proactively followed up by a phone call from a GP.
- Patients on the mental health register were offered annual health checks.
- Patients were signposted to local mental health support organisations or groups including the local 'safe haven café'
- The practice had been accredited as a Dementia Friendly practice. The practice had changed the signage within the practice to make it more dementia friendly.

Timely access to care and treatment

Patients were able to access care and treatment from the practice within an acceptable timescale for their needs.

- Patients had timely access to initial assessment, test results, diagnosis and treatment.
- Waiting times, delays and cancellations were minimal and managed appropriately.
- Patients with the most urgent needs had their care and treatment prioritised.
- Patients reported that the appointment system was easy to use.

Listening and learning from concerns and complaints

The practice took complaints and concerns seriously and responded to them appropriately to improve the quality of care.

- Information about how to make a complaint or raise concerns was available. Staff treated patients who made complaints compassionately.
- The complaint policy and procedures were in line with recognised guidance. The practice learned lessons from individual concerns and complaints. The practice demonstrated that all complaints were responded to and documented what actions had occurred. From each complaints record we reviewed there was little evidence to demonstrate that the practice had identified and recorded what learning had occurred as a result of the complaint. The practice told us complaints were discussed at meetings but from the sample of meeting minutes we observed we could not see evidence of this.

Please refer to the Evidence Tables for further information.



Are services well-led?

We rated the practice and all of the population groups as good for providing a well-led service.

Leadership capacity and capability

Leaders had the capacity and skills to deliver high-quality, sustainable care.

- Leaders were knowledgeable about issues and priorities relating to the quality and future of services. They understood the challenges and were addressing them.
- Leaders at all levels were visible and approachable although work load had at times impacted they generally worked closely with staff and others to make sure they prioritised compassionate and inclusive leadership.
- The practice had effective processes to develop leadership capacity and skills, including planning for the future leadership of the practice.

Vision and strategy

The practice had a clear vision and credible strategy to deliver high quality, sustainable care.

- There was a clear vision and set of values. The practice
 had a realistic strategy and supporting business plans to
 achieve priorities. The practice developed its vision,
 values and strategy jointly with patients, staff and
 external partners.
- Staff were aware of and understood the vision, values and strategy and their role in achieving them.
- The strategy was in line with health and social priorities across the region. The practice planned its services to meet the needs of the practice population.
- The practice monitored progress against delivery of the strategy.

Culture

The practice had a culture of high-quality sustainable care.

- Staff stated they felt respected, supported and valued.
 They were proud to work in the practice. Some staff spoke of the last 12 months being very busy and stressful due to a period of staff turnover and an increase in patients registering with the practice. The practice had recruited or were in the process of recruiting for any vacancies in the administration team.
- The practice focused on the needs of patients.
- Leaders and managers acted on behaviour and performance inconsistent with the vision and values.

- Openness, honesty and transparency were demonstrated when responding to incidents and complaints. The provider was aware of and had systems to ensure compliance with the requirements of the duty of candour.
- Staff we spoke with told us they were able to raise concerns and were encouraged to do so. They had confidence that these would be addressed.
- There were processes for providing all staff with the development they need. This included appraisal and career development conversations. All staff received regular annual appraisals in the last year. Staff were supported to meet the requirements of professional revalidation where necessary.
- Clinical staff were considered valued members of the practice team. They were given protected time for professional development and evaluation of their clinical work.
- There was a strong emphasis on the safety and well-being of all staff.
- The practice actively promoted equality and diversity.
 Most staff had received equality and diversity training.
 Staff felt they were treated equally.
- There were positive relationships between staff and teams.

Governance arrangements

There were clear responsibilities, roles and systems of accountability to support good governance and management. Although, these systems were not always fully embedded or implemented.

- Structures, processes and systems to support good governance and management were in place and for the majority clearly set out, understood and effective. However, for some there were shortfalls in embedding into practice. The governance and management of partnerships, joint working arrangements and shared services promoted interactive and co-ordinated person-centred care.
- Staff were clear on their roles and accountabilities including in respect of safeguarding and infection prevention and control.
- The system for oversight of staff training records was delegated to the lead of each team (nursing, GP and non-clinical). There were three training matrices in place with one for each team. The nursing and non-clinical staff training matrices were completed and any areas



Are services well-led?

where staff had not been documented as completed training or were requiring an update were highlighted to follow up. The oversight of the GP training matrix was less embedded and the training matrix was incomplete.

- On the day of the inspection, three GPs had no record on this document of having completed fire safety or infection control training. We discussed this with the GP partner who said that training had occurred and that they would look into updating their matrix. Following the inspection the practice provided us with a copy of the revised matrix for GP staff which showed that all training had been completed and clearly identifying which staff were due for update training.
- There was a lack of evidence to demonstrate how learning from complaints was disseminated to all staff.
- Practice leaders had established policies, procedures and activities to ensure safety and assured themselves that they were operating as intended. However, not all of these policies were easily located on the staff shared drive or had evidence to document that they had been reviewed or updated. For example:
 - Some policies had a last updated date of 2012 or 2014.
 - The information governance or data protection policy was not available at the time of inspection.
 Since the inspection the practice told us that they had an information governance policy.

Managing risks, issues and performance

There were clear and effective processes for managing risks, issues and performance.

- There was an effective, process to identify, understand, monitor and address current and future risks including risks to patient safety.
- The practice had processes to manage current and future performance. Performance of employed clinical staff could be demonstrated through audit of their consultations, prescribing and referral decisions.
 Practice leaders had oversight of national and local safety alerts, incidents, and complaints, however, the system for receiving and tracking of Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency alerts were not as fully embedded into practice as safety alerts received from other organisations.
- Clinical audit had a positive impact on quality of care and outcomes for patients. There was clear evidence of action to change practice to improve quality.

- The practice had plans in place and had trained staff for major incidents.
- The practice implemented service developments and where efficiency changes were made this was with input from clinicians to understand their impact on the quality of care.

Appropriate and accurate information

The practice acted on appropriate and accurate information.

- Quality and operational information was used to ensure and improve performance. Performance information was combined with the views of patients.
- Quality and sustainability were discussed in relevant meetings where all staff had sufficient access to information.
- The practice used performance information which was reported and monitored and management and staff were held to account.
- The information used to monitor performance and the delivery of quality care was accurate and useful. There were plans to address any identified weaknesses.
- The practice used information technology systems to monitor and improve the quality of care.
- The practice submitted data or notifications to external organisations as required.
- There were robust arrangements in line with data security standards for the availability, integrity and confidentiality of patient identifiable data, records and data management systems.

Engagement with patients, the public, staff and external partners

The practice involved patients, the public, staff and external partners to support high-quality sustainable services.

- A full and diverse range of patients', staff and external partners' views and concerns were encouraged, heard and acted on to shape services and culture. There was an active patient participation group.
- The service was transparent, collaborative and open with stakeholders about performance.

Continuous improvement and innovation

There were evidence of systems and processes for learning, continuous improvement and innovation.



Are services well-led?

- There was a focus on continuous learning and improvement.
- Staff knew about improvement methods and had the skills to use them.
- The practice made use of internal and external reviews of incidents and complaints.
- Leaders and managers encouraged staff to take time out to review individual and team objectives, processes and performance.
- Some staff in leadership roles also had secondary roles within the local clinical commissioning group and were therefore able to raise concerns about primary care and their practice with key stakeholders as well as inform other staff within the practice of initiatives or changes taking place across the locality.

Please refer to the Evidence Tables for further information.