

Mid Downs Medical Practice

Inspection report

Marbles Road
Newick
Lewes
East Sussex
BN8 4LR
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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 location

Good



Are services safe?

Good



Overall summary

This practice is rated as Good overall. (Previous rating November 2017 – Good)

The key questions at this inspection 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 focused inspection at Mid Downs Medical Practice on 20 September 2018 to follow up on a breach of regulation identified at our inspection in November 2017. At our previous inspection we rated the practice as requires improvement for providing safe services and good for effective, caring, responsive and well-led services.

At this inspection we found:

- The practice had rectified the issue in relation to security of prescription forms by fitting number pad locks to all rooms where these forms were used.
- The practice had ensured they kept emergency medicine to assist patients who may be undergoing a diabetic emergency.
- The practice had improved in the delivery of immunisations to children and had exceeded the target set by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

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

Please refer to the detailed report and the evidence tables for further information.

Population group ratings

Our inspection team

Our inspection was undertaken by a Care Quality Commission (CQC) lead inspector.

Background to Mid Downs Medical Practice

The practice is situated in the villages of Newick and South Chailey, near Lewes in East Sussex and provides general medical services to approximately 9,270 patients. There are six GPs, three of whom are female. The practice also employs a practice manager, an assistant practice manager, two practice nurses, one health care assistant and administration and reception staff. The practice has been accredited to provide training to GP trainees and is also a teaching practice (hosting medical students from a local University).

The practice has a higher proportion of patients over the age of 65 years compared to the national average and serves a population that has lower deprivation levels affecting both adults and children than the national average.

We visited the practice location at Newick Health Centre, Marbles Road, Newick, East Sussex, BN8 4LR. There is also a branch surgery at South Chailey Surgery, Mill Lane, South Chailey, Lewes, BN8 4PY. We did not visit the branch surgery as part of our inspection.

Opening hours are Monday to Friday 8.30am until 6.30pm at the Newick Health Centre and 8.30am until 12.30pm and 3.30pm until 6.30pm Monday to Friday at the South Chailey Surgery. The practice also provides extended opening hours on a Saturday morning from 9.00am until 11.00am at Newick Health Centre for pre booked appointments only.

Are services safe?

We rated the practice as good for providing safe services.

At our previous inspection on 23 November 2017, we rated the practice as requires improvement for providing safe services as the arrangements for the security of computer prescription forms were not sufficient. The details of these can be found by selecting the 'all reports' link for Mid Downs Medical Practice on our website at www.cqc.org.uk

We issued a requirement notice in respect of these issues and at this inspection on 20 September 2018 we found arrangements had been made to rectify this.

Appropriate and safe use of medicines

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

- The systems for managing and storing emergency medicines minimised risks.
- The security of prescription forms was strengthened by installing number key locks on all doors to the rooms that contained these.

Please refer to the evidence tables for further information.