

Where can I go to have my bloods taken?

Changes have been made to the way you can access a blood test from 1 July 2018.....

This Practice is a member of the GPW-Federation and our practices have made the decision, following extensive patient feedback, to carry out all phlebotomy appointments at your own surgery. Most practices are offering a variety of appointments which should allow you to be seen at a time that is convenient to you where possible.

Pre-bookable Appointments– 0151 639 7054

These can be made via your Practice reception. Please contact them to make a pre-bookable appointment. If your appointment is for a child please mention this when booking.

You can also pre book an appointment at one of the clinics listed below Monday to Friday between 3 and 5pm

Keeping your Appointment!

If you cannot attend for your appointment please ensure you let the surgery know in sufficient time to cancel the appointment. Non attendance puts pressure on NHS valuable resources and means that other patients cannot be seen. Please help us to make the most efficient use of these resources.

Drop-In Clinics

There will be drop-in clinics for those patients who may find it difficult to attend the times available at their practice. Please make sure you have your booking number or forms with you if attending one of these.

Monday to Friday, 1.00 - 3.00pm

Monday - Moreton Health Clinic, Chadwick St, Moreton, Wirral CH46 7XA

Tuesday - Miriam Medical Centre, Laird St, Birkenhead, Wirral CH41 8DB

Wednesday - Holmlands Medical Centre, Holmlands Dr, Prenton, Wirral CH43 0TX

Thursday - Moreton Health Clinic, Chadwick St, Moreton, Wirral CH46 7XA

Friday - Miriam Medical Centre, Laird St, Birkenhead, Wirral CH41 8DB

Phlebotomy

A Guide to having a blood test

Advice for Patients

Field Road Health Centre

A Member of

GPW-Federation



Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group

Home Visit for Bloods

This is strictly for housebound patients only. If you are not housebound you will be asked to come to the surgery to have your bloods taken. If you are housebound please contact your practice on 0151 639 7054 to arrange for your blood visit.

Please note we will assess if patients are housebound on the following :

Home visit criteria

- Are too frail, elderly or infirm that it prevents them leaving the house
- Have a severe physical disability that it prevents them leaving the house
- Have mental health problems which make it difficult for them to leave the home
- Have sensory disabilities, especially severe visual impairment which makes it difficult for them to leave the home
- Have profound or severe learning difficulties which make it difficult for them to leave the home
- Temporarily housebound patients e.g. post-surgery

Why am I having a blood test?

There are a number of reasons why your Doctor may request that you have a blood sample taken. This might be to help with a diagnosis, to monitor treatment, or to exclude certain conditions. In most cases these samples will be taken by a procedure known as Phlebotomy or Venepuncture, i.e. taking blood from a vein. The information given below will explain the procedure in more detail.

How is a blood sample taken?

The procedure is performed by a trained member of staff, usually a phlebotomist, doctor, nurse or Healthcare Assistant. A tourniquet is placed around your arm just above the elbow, then a small needle is inserted into a vein on the inner arm. Blood is withdrawn into sample bottles and the needle is then removed. Pressure is applied at the site with a piece of cotton wool or gauze until the bleeding has stopped and then a small sticky tape is applied. Please tell the person taking the blood if you are allergic to sticking tape or if you are on any medication that thins the blood (such as Warfarin or Aspirin)

Will it hurt?

Putting the needle into the arm involves a pin prick sensation but after that the rest of the procedure should be quite painless. Some people continue to feel some discomfort or pain and we are not sure why. It is probably because of nerves under the surface of the skin but this should settle quite quickly. If not you should contact your GP for advice.

Will it bruise?

You may get a bruise or a small lump after having blood taken. This will usually settle by itself and fade away in time. Some conditions may increase the risk of bruising. These include:

- Drugs such as Warfarin or Aspirin
- Conditions such as a bleeding disorder or low platelets (thrombocytopenia)
- When it is hard to get a vein, for example if the arm is swollen (oedema)
- Elderly patients

What happens to the blood samples?

The samples are tested in the pathology laboratory and the results sent to the person who asked for the sample to be taken. Blood results can normally take up to 5 days to return. Normally the requester will contact you if you need to be seen regarding your results. If you don't hear anything and are still concerned, please contact the person who sent you for the test.

If you have any questions about this procedure please ask the member of staff taking the sample or the person responsible for your care.

Complaints / Compliments

If you have any complaints or compliments of the service and treatment you have received please contact your GP practice on 0151 639 7054 who will be able to advise.

Remember....

Please inform the Phlebotomist before your test if you have had bad experiences in the past for example fainting.

Talk to the staff if you want to ask any questions.

The staff are here to help you.