

Patient information Leaflet

Chaperone procedure

If an intimate or personal examination is required or if the nature of the examination poses a risk of misunderstanding then the following guidelines should be considered:

- Give the patient a clear explanation of what the examination will involve.
- Always adopt a professional and considerate manner.
- Always ensure that the patient is provided with adequate privacy to undress and dress.

If a clinician or a patient feels uncomfortable about an examination it would always be appropriate to consider using a chaperone. Once the patient has expressed a wish to use a chaperone, the examination should begin once the chaperone is present. If a chaperone is unavailable, the appointment should be rescheduled.

The Practice will also provide a Chaperone, if requested, for home visits.

What to do if you know in advance that you will require a chaperone

If you feel at the time of booking you will require a chaperone for your Doctors/Nurses appointment please mention it to the team on booking and this can be arranged for you. Patients are not permitted to dispense with the chaperone once they have expressed a wish for one to be present.

What happens when you request a Chaperone

The chaperone will enter the room discreetly and remain there until the clinician has finished the examination.

The chaperone will normally attend inside the curtain at the head of the examination couch and watch the procedure.

To prevent embarrassment, the chaperone should not enter into conversation with the patient or clinician unless requested to do so, or make any mention of the consultation afterwards.