

Your GP cares



**Need more time
with your GP?**



**Struggling to get
an appointment?**



You are not alone

**Find out what you can do
to help us change this...**

BMA 

Why is my GP surgery important?

GP surgeries are at the heart of our communities.

Here in the UK, we value good access to health advice and treatment close to home.

Our GP service is respected across the world and trusted by patients. It is the cornerstone of the NHS.

But there are problems. GPs are facing increasing challenges which are affecting their ability to deliver services as they and we expect.



What has changed?

GPs across the UK report there is not enough time to meet all the needs of their patients.

Demand for appointments keeps rising. Older and vulnerable people with complex issues need to spend more time with their GP. The number of people over 65 in the UK reached 10.8 million in 2012 and is predicted to hit almost 18 million by 2037.

Already, more than 18 million people, many of working age, live with at least one long-term condition such as asthma, arthritis or diabetes.

Pressures on the system are resulting in GPs retiring early and doctors are not choosing general practice as a career.

Therefore it is likely that there will be fewer GPs to go around despite the increasing demand and the situation could get worse year-on-year. But patients need their GP now more than ever.

Your GP cares that this affects how they are able to look after you.

How does this affect me?

You often have to wait much longer to see your GP

Every year, over 26 million people in England wait more than a week to see their GP.

You don't get to spend enough time with your GP

There are not enough hours in the day for GPs to carry out all the tasks now expected of them. The standard GP appointment isn't long enough for many patients.

You don't have access to all of the services you need at your GP surgery

Too many GP practices are in unsuitable buildings and don't have the space or facilities to meet people's needs.

Your GP is under pressure

More support for GP services is needed to ensure patient services are fit for the future. This is why the British Medical Association (BMA) is calling for long term, sustainable investment in your GP services.

What is the BMA calling for?

Your GP cares about what these pressures mean for you as patients.

The BMA has launched the **Your GP cares** campaign to support GPs and their practice teams in seeking improvements.

We are calling for long term, sustainable investment to:

- ensure there are enough GPs to meet your needs
- ensure GPs have the right team around them to help deliver the services you need
- ensure GP premises are fit for purpose.

We are working with patients, doctors and government to find solutions to deliver you the care and support you need and deserve from your GP.

Can I help make change happen?

Yes. You can make a difference. We are doing all we can to raise awareness of the issues.

This is how you can help

Support us

Join the campaign at bma.org.uk/YourGPcares

Put pressure on your local politician

Find out how at bma.org.uk/YourGPcaresaction

Share your experiences

Tell us how problems in general practice affect you by emailing us YourGPcares@bma.org.uk

Follow @The BMA on Twitter

Promote the campaign and discuss the issues using [#YourGPcares](https://twitter.com/YourGPcares)

Thank you for your help

Your GP
cares