

NEWLANDS MEDICAL CENTRE

Most patients who need to consult a GP will be seen at the surgery but we continue to make a limited number of home visits when this is appropriate. All requests for home visits must be made before 11.00am. The receptionist will ask you details about your condition to help us prioritise visit requests.

Our guidelines are in accordance with the National recommendations from 2016 safety alert.

We also have agreed our own Practice guidelines for requests for home visits.

All requests for home visits will be triaged by a member of our clinical team to assess whether clinically appropriate and to prioritise visits.

When a home visit may be appropriate

A GP or Clinical Practitioner may visit a patient at home to provide medical advice and support if the patient is:

- The terminally ill
- The truly bed-bound patient, for whom travel to premises by car would cause deterioration in their medical condition or risk to life.

Home Visit may not be appropriate

A home visit may not be appropriate in the following cases:

- Common symptoms of childhood illnesses: fevers, cold, cough, earache, headache, diarrhoea/vomiting, and most cases of abdominal pain. These patients are usually well enough to travel by car. It is not harmful to take a child with a fever outside. These children may not be fit to travel by bus or to walk; but car transport is available from friends, relatives or taxi firms. It is not a doctor's responsibility to arrange such transport.
- Adults with common problems: such as cough, sore throat, influenza, back pain and abdominal pain, are also readily transportable by car to a doctor's premises.
- Common problems in the elderly: such as poor mobility, joint pain and general malaise, would also be treated by consultation at the doctor's premises. The exception to this would be the truly bed-bound patient.

If you cannot come to the surgery and need the doctor to visit, please telephone 01642 247029