

Auchtermuchty Health Centre



NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2015

As you may be aware Auchtermuchty Health Centre currently has two vacancies for Doctors, and as such since June this year we have lost 11 sessions per week. This equates to over 8,000 appointments per year. Despite a £3000 advertising campaign, we have only had one person expressing an interest, and even if they do apply, they could not start until late in the Autumn. We are trying everything we can to attract new Doctor's and find Locum cover, but as you may have seen in the national media; there is a nationwide shortage of General Practitioners.

This is obviously going to have a 'knock on' effect on appointment availability and outlined below are some of the changes that we have had to adopt in an attempt to accommodate this staffing crisis:

- There will be no pre-bookable appointments
- There will usually be routine GP appointments available to book on the day, but occasionally you may be asked to come down to the Surgery and be prepared to sit and wait to see a GP
- You may be asked by Reception Staff for more details relating to your illness so that we can triage your needs effectively
- You may be offered a Nurse Practitioner appointment rather than a GP if deemed more appropriate
- There may be no other option than to see another GP, rather than your usual Doctor
- Please do not allow yourself to run out of your medication – adhere to the repeat prescribing policy (i.e 2 working days)

Please bear with us through these difficult times, and rest assured that we are doing everything we can to recruit additional cover. Please also understand that we are working harder than ever to accommodate all our patient needs.

YOUR PATIENCE DURING THIS CHALLENGING PERIOD
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.
THANK YOU.