

Message for practice websites on Omicron impact on staffing

We would like to inform our patients that, due to the outbreak of the Omicron COVID variant, our practice is currently experiencing significant staff absences. Like many workplaces, GP practices are coping with unprecedented levels of staff sickness and self-isolation at this time.

We would like to reassure you that we are doing everything possible to maintain normal services in light of this situation. Unfortunately, there may be some short-term changes or disruption to the way we normally work – we apologise if you should find this to be the case.

We would be very grateful for your patience and understanding during this challenging time and would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Before contacting your GP practice, it is always really helpful if you can please think about the right health service option for your needs. Not only can this help us make sure we are seeing those people who are most in need of our support sooner, but it will also help you get the right treatment faster as well – particularly with the pandemic continuing to have an impact on services.

Below are some of the other healthcare options available in Buckinghamshire:

- [NHS.UK](#) has a really helpful patient guide to conditions, symptoms and treatments which may help you manage your illness or injury
- The 111 online service at [111.nhs.uk](#) is a great source of information and advice, especially if you are not sure which service to use.
- Pharmacies are staffed by healthcare professionals and offer excellent advice as well as very effective over-the-counter treatments. You can [find your nearest pharmacy here](#).
- Many minor injuries or ailments can be treated at home, with medicines or treatments you may already have. Make sure you keep some of these handy.
- If you have a minor injury or condition (e.g. sprains, cuts, minor burns, skin infections), the Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) in High Wycombe is accessible from 8am – 8pm. [Check here](#) for more information.
- A&E - remember, A&E should be used for serious and life-threatening conditions. If it is not an emergency, or you are not sure, please check with the NHS 111 service first. But if it is, don't delay – call 999.