



Transgender Shared Care & Gender Dysphoria Services

Shared care for transgender patients is recognised as a highly specialist service - GPs are not considered specialists in this area of medicine. Our local Integrated Care Board (ICB) has determined that this care should be provided by specific clinicians at designated surgeries who have received the necessary additional training.

Shared Care Agreements:

Participating in any formal shared care agreement is voluntary, subject to a self-assessment of personal competence, and requires the agreement **of all parties**. [NHS England's guidance](#) states that when clinical responsibility for prescribing is transferred to general practice, it is important that the GP is confident to prescribe the necessary medicines. The BMA guidance states if a GP practice feels unable to take transfer of responsibility, the patient should remain under secondary care or alternative intermediate care services commissioned by their ICB. The decision as to whether to prescribe any medication, including testosterone treatment for trans-gender and non-binary people, is ultimately down to individual clinicians and individual practices and whether they feel clinically competent to do so.

Therefore, the GP partners at Berrycroft Community Health Centre have taken the **decision not to enter** into shared care agreements for transgender care for patients registered with us.

Commissioning of local services for Gender Dysphoria Patients:

The Cressex Medical Centre in High Wycombe has been specially commissioned to support gender dysphoria patients in primary care in Bucks. Staff there have received the required training and are equipped to meet the care needs of gender dysphoria patients. Patients wishing to access Gender dysphoria services in Bucks need to fully register at the Cressex Medical Centre for all their primary care needs, not just for their specialist services.

We realise this may introduce hurdles if required to travel to High Wycombe. However, the majority of consultations can be completed remotely by phone or video calls and blood tests can be arranged at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

For further queries about gender care, patients may wish to contact the local ICB. They will be able to advise if there are other providers who offer this service. You can reach them at bobicb.enquiries@nhs.net.