

Do *you* need to see the Advanced Nurse Practitioner or the GP?

Do *I* need to see the Advanced Nurse Practitioner or the GP?

Claire Mcniven is our Advanced Nurse Practitioner at Arran Medical Group. Claire has 27 years' experience of emergency care and short term/chronic conditions. When you call for an emergency appointment or same day appointment you will be reviewed by Claire, unless you have a condition that requires more specialised GP knowledge. Importantly, if Claire needs a GP opinion, the GPs are always happy to oblige and give a second opinion or review at another time if appropriate. When you call, our administration team will ask you the nature of your call to make sure you are seen by the right person at the right time.

Please note that Claire cannot see children under the age of 1 year old, pregnancy related problems or mental health.

Same Day Child Access

Claire has a policy in place to see children the same day. Please call the surgery should your child require an appointment that cannot wait until the following day.

What is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner?

Advanced Nurse practitioners (ANPs) are all trained specialist nurses who have undertaken additional education in order to provide advanced nursing care and prescribe independently. An ANP can provide treatment and advice for many problems for which you may have seen a doctor for in the past.

If your appointment is directed to Claire, then she will assess and examine you, make a diagnosis and provide advice and treatment including a prescription if required. She can make referrals to hospital, x-ray, scans etc., or other health care professionals and admit patients into hospital when necessary.

Claire's role also enables her to see the following (not an exhaustive list)

- Wounds, scalds, burns, rashes
- Acute back pain, joint sprains
- Shingles
- Oral thrush
- Acute chest infection
- Dizziness, giddiness, unusual headache
- Conjunctivitis, sticky discharging eye, sty
- Diarrhoea, constipation, piles
- Vomiting
- Urinary tract infections, cystitis
- Vaginal thrush soreness, lump or discharge

- Tonsillitis, earache, cough, swollen glands, sinusitis, sore throat, colds and flu like illnesses, raised temperature that shows no improvement after one week of pharmacy care/advice and home treatment.

There are also many other problems that Claire is able to help you with. For example menstrual disorders, unexplained weight loss, breast lumps, sexual health advice, change of contraception pill/method.

Some patients, often those with complex and long standing medical problems may need an appointment with a doctor, however, Claire is usually able to assess the situation and in some cases organise initial blood tests and other investigations prior to arranging a follow up with your GP.

A- ADVANCED

Advanced Nurse Practitioners are experienced and highly skilled senior nurses with advanced clinical skills to:-

1. Take a full medical history, carry out physical assessments and examinations
2. Make a diagnosis and carry out treatment, including the prescribing of medicines.
3. Plan follow up treatment
4. Refer patients, where appropriate

N- NURSE

28 years of nursing experience with acute settings, primary and secondary care. Ranging from basic nursing care to complex emergency care.

P- PRACTITIONER

- 1) Bachelor of Nursing
- 2) Bachelor of Science in Health Studies
- 3) PGDip in Advanced Nursing Practise
- 4) V300 – Independent Prescriber

All Arran Medical Group staff are extremely supportive of the ANP service that we offer. We hope that you find the ANP service will complement and improve the care that you already receive.

Please call in, or telephone 01770 600516 to make an appointment. Appointments are usually available within 48 hours, however it is possible for urgent cases to be seen on the same day. You may be asked some questions about your illness so that the urgency can be assessed. You can also request online access with the receptionist and can then book your own appointments online, or use Econsult.

Every appointment is a ten minute slot. Whilst we endeavour to run all clinics on time, there may be occasions when the surgery is running slightly behind schedule. Claire is not able to foresee what issues they will be presented with that day, and as such this sometimes leads to a surgery over running. The GPs and Claire here are working very

hard to ensure you are seen appropriately and we thank you for your patience during these times.

Please remember that an appointment is for one person only and is for one problem. Should you require to speak to Claire regarding two separate issues, please inform a receptionist so they can offer you a double appointment.