



7 Partnership working

Community pharmacy

GP records in community pharmacies, Brighton & Hove

Practices in Brighton and Hove have used GP Access Fund support to put the full GP record in local community pharmacies. The aim is to improve access for patients, and reduce workload for GPs in as safe and coordinated a way as possible.

The idea

Practices participating in the GP Access Fund scheme in Brighton and Hove worked with local community pharmacies to arrange to install the GP clinical system (TPP SystemOne) in the pharmacy. They created new data sharing agreements, and provided training for pharmacists. With the patients consent, the pharmacist is now able to use the record as though they were in the practice. They can provide better informed advice about managing minor illnesses and ongoing conditions, and the practice is able to book appropriate patients directly into a consultation with the pharmacist.

Impact

Patients, pharmacists and GPs have been positive about this approach. Booking appointments has worked best when the pharmacist is located within the practice team.

Implementation tips

Be clear about which patients this will benefit the most, and target marketing directly to them. Ensure the pharmacy are able to arrange appropriate training for as many of their pharmacists as possible, to provide continuity of service.

Link(s)

www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/futurenhs/pm-ext-access/wave-one/pm-about/#pil5