NHS England

Process for registering patients prior to their release from the secure residential estate

Healthcare service *(In prison, immigration removal centre, young offender institution or secure training centre)*	GP practice *(In the community)*	Notes
Healthcare team **identifies** with the patient a suitable GP practice in the area where the patient could be registered with on release and contacts the practice.		The availability of registration at this practice should be checked on the NHS website.
	If the receiving practice's list is closed, the practice will notify the secure estate healthcare team.	A patient doesn't need to have proof of address – and can register with their chosen practice, even if homeless. The community practice may wish to keep a record of the refusal and its reason.
Healthcare team either find another receiving practice or take up the matter with the relevant commissioner.		If a practice has a closed list, then the patient would in normal circumstances have a choice of other practices to register at and would not normally require assistance from the commissioner.
Healthcare team will send a pre-registration notification to the receiving practice (using a signed GMS1 registration form).		The approach can be made up to one month prior to the date of release.
	The receiving practice confirms that the patient will be registered on the day of release.	On acknowledging a patient for pre-registration, the receiving practice will be accepting responsibility for the full GMS registration of the patient from their release date.
Healthcare team arranges for the timely transfer of clinical information to the practice, with an emphasis on medication history and substance misuse.		With the introduction of GMS and GP2GP in February 2022, this would be by one of the following methods: • GP2GP for a patient who opted for secure estate GMS registration. • Electronic Patient Summary for upload to the PCSE Portal and forwarded to new community GP practice.
	Practice registers the patient on their release day.	Practices may wish to invite patients for new patient checks, although there is no need to attend the practice just to complete the registration.