

If you are Dissatisfied with the Outcome

You have the right to approach the Parliamentary & Health Service Ombudsman.

Their contact details are:
The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman
Millbank Tower
30 Millbank
London
SW1P 4QP
Tel: 0345 015 4033

Website: www.ombudsman.org.uk
www.ombudsman.org.uk/make-a-complaint
(to complain online or download a paper form)

You may also approach PALS, Healthwatch or the Independent Health Complaints Advocacy (IHCA) for help or advice;

The local Healthwatch can be found at:
www.healthwatch.co.uk

The IHCA is able to be contacted at:
www.seap.org.uk/services/nhs-complaints-advocacy

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is based at:

Scunthorpe General Hospital
Cliff Gardens, Scunthorpe, DN15 7BH

The Practice Complaints Manager is:
Christine Buckley

Ancora Medical Practice

Complaints Procedure

**Also see separate
Complaints Form
available at Reception**

Making a Complaint

Most problems can be sorted out quickly and easily, often at the time they arise with the person concerned and this may be the approach you try first.

Where you are not able to resolve your complaint in this way and wish to make a formal complaint you should do so, preferably **in writing** as soon as possible after the event and ideally within a few days, giving as much detail as you can, as this helps us to establish what happened more easily. In any event, this should be:

Within 12 months of the incident,
or within 12 months of you becoming aware of the matter.

If you are a registered patient, you can complain about your own care. You are unable to complain about someone else's treatment without their written authority. See the separate section in this leaflet.

We are able to provide you with a separate complaints form to register your complaint and this includes a third-party authority form to enable a complaint to be made by someone else. Please ask at reception for this. You can provide this in your own format providing this covers all the necessary aspects.

Send your written complaint to:

Mrs Christine Buckley, Practice Director
Ancora Medical Practice
291 Ashby Road
Scunthorpe
DN16 2AB or email to
christinebuckley@nhs.net

What we do next

We aim to settle complaints as soon as possible. We will usually acknowledge receipt within 3 working days and get a response to you within 10 working days. If it cannot be done in 10 days, you will be notified and given an idea of response time. You will then receive a formal reply in writing, or you may be invited to meet with the person(s) concerned to attempt to resolve the issue.

When looking into a complaint we attempt to see what happened and why, to see if there is something we can learn from this, and make it possible for you to discuss the issue with those involved if you would like to do so.

When the investigations are complete your complaint will be determined and a final response sent to you.

Where your complaint involves more than one organisation (e.g. social services) we will liaise with that organisation so that you receive one coordinated reply. We may need your consent to do this. Where your complaint has been sent initially to an incorrect organisation, we may seek your consent to forward this to the correct person to deal with.

The final response letter will include details of the result of your complaint and also your right to refer the matter further to the Parliamentary & Health Service Ombudsman (details shown elsewhere in this leaflet) if you remain dissatisfied with the response.

Complaining on Behalf of Someone Else

We keep to the strict rules of medical and personal confidentiality. If you wish to make a complaint and are not the patient involved, we will require the written consent of the patient to confirm that they are unhappy with their treatment and that we can deal with someone else about it. In the event the patient is deceased, then we may agree to respond to a family

member or anyone acting on their behalf or who has had an interest in the welfare of the patient.

Please ask at reception for the Complaints Form, which contains a suitable authority for the patient to sign to enable the complaint to proceed. Alternatively, we will send one to you to return to us when we receive your initial written complaint.

Where the patient is incapable of providing consent due to illness, accident or mental capacity, it may still be possible to deal with the complaint. Please provide the precise details of the circumstances that prevent this in your covering letter.

Please note that we are unable to discuss any issue relating to someone else without their express permission, which must be in writing, unless the circumstances above apply. You may also find that if you are complaining on behalf of a child who is capable of making their own complaint, we will expect that child to contact us themselves to lodge their complaint.

We may still need to correspond directly with the patient, or may be able to deal directly with the third party. This depends on the wording of the authority provided.

You may also make your complaint directly to HNYICB (Hull & North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board)

By telephone: 01904 555999

By email: hnyicb.experience@nhs.net

By post to: The Experience Team, Humber & North Yorkshire ICB, Health Place, Wrawby Road, Brigg, DN20 8GS

However, they usually prefer that you contact the surgery first as that can usually clear up the complaint.