

Chaperone Policy

At Sangam Surgery we are committed to providing a safe, respectful, and supportive environment for all patients. We understand that some examinations and procedures may be of an intimate or sensitive nature. To protect your dignity and privacy, we offer a **chaperone** service.

What is a Chaperone?

A chaperone is a trained member of our clinical or support staff who is present during certain medical examinations or procedures to:

- Provide reassurance and emotional support for the patient
 - Maintain professional standards
 - Ensure the safety and comfort of both the patient and the clinician
 - Protect against misunderstandings or allegations
-

When is a Chaperone Offered?

You may be offered a chaperone during:

- Intimate examinations (e.g., breast, genital, or rectal exams)
- Any procedure where either the patient or clinician feels it is appropriate

You may **request a chaperone at any time**. Please speak to your doctor, nurse, or a receptionist when booking or attending your appointment.

What If a Chaperone is Not Available?

If a chaperone is not immediately available, we may offer to:

- **Reschedule your appointment**, or
 - **Discuss alternative options** to ensure your comfort and safety
-

If a Chaperone is Recommended by the Clinician, but the Patient Declines

There may be occasions where a clinician recommends having a chaperone present — particularly during intimate or sensitive examinations — to ensure good clinical practice and protect both patient and clinician.

If a chaperone is recommended and the **patient declines**, the clinician will:

- Clearly explain why a chaperone is advised
- Respect the patient's wishes where appropriate
- However, the clinician **may choose not to proceed** with the examination if they feel it is not appropriate to do so without a chaperone present

This decision will always be made in the best interest of both the patient and the healthcare provider.

Confidentiality and Training

All our chaperones are trained in appropriate procedures and understand the importance of:

- Patient confidentiality
- Respectful and non-judgmental support
- Maintaining professional boundaries

Your Rights

- You can decline a chaperone if you prefer
- You can request a chaperone of the same sex, and we will do our best to accommodate your request
- You can stop an examination at any time

If you have any questions or concerns about our chaperone policy, please speak to a member of our reception or clinical team — we are here to support you