**Information for Patients Who Choose Private Healthcare**

We understand that some of our patients decide to see Doctors or specialists privately.

If you do, please note the following:

# Tests and Results

If your private doctor requests ultrasounds, blood tests, X-rays or procedures, **they must arrange these and give you the results**. Please contact your private clinic directly for test results and follow-up — not the GP surgery.

# Prescriptions

NHS GPs can only prescribe medicines that are safe, appropriate and approved for NHS use. If you are given a new medicine privately, the private doctor should provide your prescription until your GP

agrees it can be safely continued on the NHS. Some medicines (e.g. ADHD medication, methotrexate) need specialist monitoring. GPs do **not** usually take over this prescribing from private doctors.

# Referrals

If you need to see another specialist (NHS or private), your private doctor is responsible for making that referral.

# Fit Notes (Sick Notes)

If your private doctor recommends time off work, **they must provide the fit note** for the full period.

**Key Point:**

Your private doctor is responsible for any care they start — including tests, prescriptions, referrals and fit notes. The GP surgery cannot take over this responsibility unless it follows NHS guidance and your GP agrees it is safe.