

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint from either [Integrated Care Board \(ICB\)](#) or this organisation, then you can escalate your complaint to

Parliamentary & Health Service Ombudsman.

Their contact details are:

The Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman

Millbank Tower

30 Millbank

London

SW1P 4QP

Citygate, Mosley Street

MANCHESTER

M2 3HQ

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 for help or advice;

The local Health Advocacy can be found at:

Email: WHACS@pohwer.net

www.healthwatch.co.uk

The IHCA is able to be contacted at:

www.seap.org.uk/services/nhs-complaints-advocacy

MGS Medical Practice Complaints Procedure

Advocacy support

- [POhWER](#) support centre can be contacted via 0300 456 2370
- [Advocacy People](#) gives advocacy support on 0330 440 9000
- [Age UK](#) on 0800 055 6112
- Local Council can give advice on local advocacy services

Other advocates and links can be found on this [PHSO webpage](#)

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

Making a Complaint

Most problems can be sorted out quickly and easily with the person concerned, often at the time they arise, 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 not normally able to complain about someone else's treatment without their written authority. See the separate section in this leaflet for what to do in this case.

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 it covers all of the necessary aspects.

Send your written complaint in the first instance to

Complaints team at MGS Medical Practice

191 First Avenue, Low Hill Wolverhampton WV10 9SX
The practice Complaints lead is: Assistant Manager supported by Team Leader(s)
or Email to M92654Wolverhampton@nhs.net

What We Do Next

We aim to settle complaints as soon as possible.

We will usually acknowledge receipt within three working days and try to 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 wish to do so.

When the investigations are complete, a final written response will be 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 initially sent 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 and 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 Black Country ICB Time2Talk team

By telephone: 03000120281

By email: bcicb.time2talk@nhs.net

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