

The King's Family Practice

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Dr C Anota • Dr C Norwood (Partners)

IMPORTANT CHANGES AT KING'S FAMILY PRACTICE

As many of you will be aware, there is a national shortage of GPs. This has meant that since Dr Najjar left the practice in 2016, we have not been successful in recruiting a replacement Partner.

Over the past year we have explored many different ways of working in order to meet patient demand, as well as approaching Medway CCG in an attempt to access extra support. Sadly, it became clear that the only real option was to seek a larger provider, who would take over King's and thereby bring extra clinicians to the Practice.

After lengthy discussions it has been agreed that the practice will join the DMC Healthcare group. DMC already run several local practices as well as providing services in London. This change will come into effect on **1st May**. There will be no immediate alterations to the way in which patients access medical care at the surgery and all contact details will remain unchanged.

However, it is with much sadness that we will both be leaving the Practice at the end of April. This has been a very difficult decision to reach as we have practiced at Kings for many years, (Dr Anota 18 years and Dr Norwood 15 years). It has been a privilege and joy to serve the communities of Chatham and Gillingham. However we feel that it is right to leave at this point as a new era for the Practice begins.

We both will take with us many fond memories of our time at King's, and hope that despite the recent challenges, we have provided the best possible healthcare to you, our patients. We will not be able to say goodbye to you all individually during our surgeries in the coming month and so we would like to invite you all to a farewell gathering with light refreshments. This will be held at the surgery on Sat 27 April, and all would be welcome to drop in at any time between 1pm - 3pm. We would love to see as many of you as possible on that day.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for making our time at King's so memorable, and wish you all well for the future.

Drs Chris Anota and Catherine Norwood