

Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic

13 Water Street North, Cambridge, ON N1R 3B2
B 204-123 Pioneer Drive, Kitchener, ON N2P 2A3
10-10 Townsend Dr., Breslau, ON N0B 1M0
(519) 772-2322 phone
(519) 772-2323 fax
www.wrnplc.ca
patient@wrnplc.ca



Patient Welcome Package

The Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner (NP) Led clinic provides comprehensive primary health care to people of all ages and health conditions. Our team includes Nurse Practitioners, Nurses, Pharmacist, Social workers, Consultant Physicians and Administrative staff who all work together with our Patients to meet their health care needs.

Frequently Asked Questions

❖ What is a Nurse Practitioner?

Nurse Practitioners (NPs), also known as Registered Nurses in the Extended Class, begin their nursing career as Registered Nurses and become NPs with an advanced graduate education degree (i.e. Masters degree) as well as additional nursing experience and exam requirements. They work independently but are most often found working as key members with an integrated health care team. Nurse Practitioners have the competence to provide comprehensive health assessment, to diagnose health/ illness conditions, and to treat and manage acute and chronic illness within a holistic model of care.

❖ What is a Nurse Practitioner (NP) Led Clinic?

-NPLCs are interprofessional primary health care centers funded through the Ontario Ministry of Health

-NPLCs are governed by a volunteer board of directors

-NPs are the lead primary health care provider in an NPLC

❖ What do I bring to my first Meet and Greet appointment?

- ✓ *Your valid health card, please ensure you have this available at every visit*
- ✓ *Immunization record*
- ✓ *Name and address of any specialist you may be seeing*
- ✓ *“med check” from your pharmacy if you take 3 or more medications*

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- ✓ *List of any medications you are currently taking including any herbal/traditional remedies*
- ✓ *Medical records, if you are in possession of them. Otherwise, please wait until you have met with your NP to understand what records are required*
- ✓ *If medical records are required, we will ask you to complete a Patient Authorization Release form. *Note that doctor's offices may charge a fee.*

❖ Appointments

- You are assigned to one Nurse Practitioner*
- You may see a different Nurse Practitioner during a "same day" appointment*
- Please let the receptionist know the reason for your visit so that your appointment time can be used effectively*
- We do have online booking for our providers. Please visit our website*
- Non-urgent, non-medical emails can be sent to patient@wrnplc.ca. Please do not send photos through email. Forms are accepted as PDF.*
- Appointment times may vary depending on the reason for your visit*
- Please provide 24 hours' notice when cancelling or rescheduling appointments*
- Appointments cannot be made on a walk-in basis*
- If you arrive 10 minutes or more late for your appointment, you will automatically be rescheduled for a later date (see attached Patient Attendance statement)*
- Missing 3 appointments without notice will result in consequences that may include dismissal from our clinic (see attached Patient Attendance statement)*
- Please remember the phones are extremely busy first thing in the morning and right after lunch so wait times might be longer*

❖ "Same day" appointments

- Same day appointments are designed to deal with single urgent issues only (i.e. earache, sore throat)*

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-We book these appointments with the next available provider, which may be different than the Nurse Practitioner you are assigned to

❖ Medications and prescriptions

-It is best to ask your provider about your medication renewals during your regular scheduled appointment

-If renewals are needed without an appointment, please ask your pharmacy to fax us a request

-Please allow 48-72 hours for faxed renewals

❖ Emergencies and after-hours care

-In the event of an emergency, please call 911 or go to your nearest emergency department

-If you go to Emergency or a walk-in clinic, please let us know so we can book a follow up and obtain your records

We have attached our Privacy Statement, Patient Code of Conduct, Patient Rights and Responsibilities and Patient Attendance Statement policies. Please review prior to your Meet and Greet appointment.

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Patient Code of Conduct Policy

To establish the expectations, boundaries, and standards of conduct for patients cared for by staff of the Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic (WRNPLC). This policy aligns with creating a safe work environment for employees.

As a patient of the Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic (WRNPLC), I understand and agree to the following:

- 1. I will be assigned to one Nurse Practitioner as my primary care provider. I understand that switching between NPs is not allowed*
- 2. I may be booked with an alternate NP if I require urgent (i.e., same day) or timely care and my NP is not available*
- 3. I understand that, based on the advice of my NP, I may also work with our health providers at our clinic such as pharmacists or social workers. In addition, I may be referred to outside care providers.*
- 4. I can expect courteous and prompt service from all the staff and will treat them the same way. I will be discharged from the clinic for disruptive and disrespectful behavior.*
- 5. I must be on time for appointments and attend outside appointments arranged by WRNPLC. I may be discharged from the clinic for not complying with this guideline.*
- 6. WRNPLC will not complete forms or manage correspondence associated with lawsuits, re: past health care concerns.*
- 7. I will use only medications prescribed by WRNPLC providers or specialists. I will advise WRNPLC providers of specialist care and ensure copies of records are made available to WRNPLC staff.*
- 8. I will follow the WRNPLC problem resolution process in the event there is a disagreement with my provider*

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Patient Attendance Statement

Our philosophy at Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic includes working with you to attain a level of health in line with your goals and optimal well-being. We strive to do this with the utmost respect for all our patients. To provide this care, we also expect that all patients respect the time and care of others by abiding by our Patient Attendance Policy.

As a patient of WRNPLC, we ask that you:

- 1. Attending all scheduled appointments so we may address your health care needs in a timely manner without needing to be rescheduled.*
- 2. Provide 24-48 hours' notice for any cancellations.*
- 3. Contact the office at 519-722-2322 to notify the receptionist if you expect to arrive late for an appointment. (e.g., due to traffic, weather, etc.). If you arrive 10 minutes late or more, you will automatically be rescheduled for a later date.*
- 4. If you miss an intake/first appointment (without calling to cancel or reschedule) you will be placed back on the wait list for new patients.*
- 5. If you fail to attend 3 or more appointments (without calling in advance to cancel or reschedule) you will be mailed a letter to advise you that you may only book same day appointments going forward.*
- 6. If attendance continues to be an issue, you may be discharged from our clinic.*

"Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioners Led Clinic strives to provide person-centered, quality driven, integrated and accessible primary health care to all residents of the Waterloo Region and surrounding area"

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WRNPLC Patient Rights and Responsibilities

Rights of Patients

- *To be treated respectfully, fairly and with dignity*
- *To have privacy and confidentiality maintained*
- *To be fully informed regarding all aspects of care*
- *To refuse treatment and to be informed of the consequences*
- *To express opinions and be heard in a manner that is open, honest and accepting*
- *To provide feedback to the organization*

Responsibilities of Patient

- *To be fully committed to a whole person approach to health*
- *To fully disclose the details of your health*
- *To be accountable for your actions*
- *To attend scheduled appointments both at the clinic and with specialist*

**WRNPLC has a zero tolerance for disruptive behavior including verbal/physical abuse, name calling or the use of profanities. Consequences of this behavior may include limited appointments, behavior contract and dismissal from the clinic.*

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Privacy Statement

All the staff, students and volunteers at Waterloo Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic are bound by law and ethics to safeguard your privacy and the confidentiality of your information.

We collect, use and disclose your personal health information to:

- *Treat and care for you*
- *Plan, administer and manage our internal operations.*
- *Conduct risk management and quality improvement activities*
- *Teach*
- *Conduct research*
- *Compile statistics*
- *Comply with legal and regulatory requirements*
- *Get payment for your treatment and care (OHIP, WSIB, your private insurer and others)*
- *Fulfill other purposes permitted or required by law*

Your request for care implies consent for our collection, use and disclosure of your personal information for purposes related to your care as noted above. All other purposes would require your express consent.

Express consent means verbal or written permission or authorization has been obtained from you for the collection, use or disclosure of personal health information.

You have the right at any time to withdraw your consent to disclose personal health information. You will be required to sign the appropriate form which will be forwarded by the Privacy Officer.

For a complete review of Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic Privacy Policy, or to raise a concern, you can speak to our staff or visit our website at: www.wrnplc.ca

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By my signature, I _____ acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to the policies included in the documents enclosed from the Waterloo Region Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic welcome package.

These documents, policies include:

1. Privacy Statement
2. Patient Rights and Responsibilities
3. Patient code of conduct
4. Patient Attendance Statement policies

Patient/Guardian Signature

Date

PATIENT STICKER