[GP myth buster 65: Effective clinical governance arrangements in GP practices](https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/gp-mythbusters/gp-mythbuster-65-effective-clinical-governance-arrangements-gp-practices) (page last updated 23 December 2022)

**Clinical Governance**

The CQC considers a GP practice’s clinical governance arrangements when they make judgements about how effective and how well-led GP practices are and looking at clinical governance arrangements is a key aspect of the inspection. Clinical governance arrangements are considered when the CQC looks at:

* How are people’s care and treatment monitored and how do they compare with other similar services?

**How effective is the GP practice:**

* Is information regarding the outcomes of people’s care and treatment routinely collected and monitored, including assessment, diagnosis, referral to other services and the management of people’s long-term or chronic conditions, including those in the last 12 months of life?
* Does this information show that the intended outcomes for people are being achieved?
* How do outcomes for people in this service compare to other similar services and how have they changed over time?
* Are clinical audits carried out and all relevant staff involved?
* Is there participation in applicable local audits, national benchmarking, accreditation, peer review and research? How are findings used and what action is taken as a result to make improvements?
* Are staff involved in activities to monitor and improve people’s outcomes?

**How well-led is the GP practice:**

* Do the governance arrangements ensure that responsibilities are clear, and that quality, performance and risks are identified, understood and managed?
* Is there a holistic and comprehensive understanding or performance, which integrates the views of people with safety and quality information?
* Are there comprehensive assurance systems and performance measures which are reported and monitored, and is action taken to improve performance?
* Is there a systematic programme of clinical and internal audit which is used to monitor quality and systems to identify where action should be taken?

**Key lines of enquiry used in inspections are: Is it safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led?**

