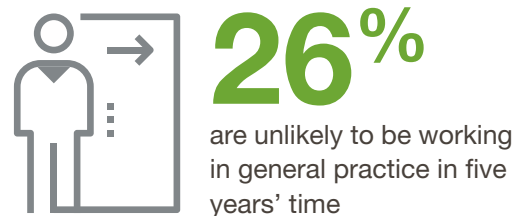
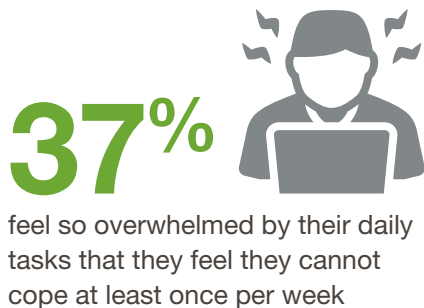


#RenewGP

General practice is at the frontline of the NHS, playing a crucial role in providing care to patients in the heart of communities across Scotland. RCGP Scotland members tell us that increasing workload pressures, rising patient demand and continued underinvestment in general practice are having a significant impact on them and their patients:



**We believe that patients and GPs deserve better.
It's time to #RenewGP**

We are calling for commitments to urgently bolster the GP workforce and increase the level of spending in general practice to **11% of the Scottish NHS budget**. Taking these steps will help ensure that general practice provides high quality care that meets the current, and future, needs of patients in Scotland.

#RenewGP

INCREASE INVESTMENT TO GENERAL PRACTICE

The renewal of general practice must be underpinned by increased funding for services. General practice must receive 11% of the total NHS budget to enable an increased workforce with new roles that create sustainable workload levels, development of teaching and training for general practice, and digitally enabled care for patients.

IMPROVE HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF PATIENTS AND GPs

Urgent investment in IT is required to ensure that systems work more effectively together, improving reliability for clinicians and patients. Before new digital services are rolled out, they must be fully evaluated to ensure that they improve patient safety and reduce health inequalities and clinician workload.

TACKLE HEALTH INEQUALITIES

GPs play a vital role in tackling health inequalities. GPs serving areas with high socio-economic deprivation should have access to appropriately increased resource, to ensure that the NHS is at its best where patients need it most. Community Link Workers should be rolled out to practices across Scotland, with practices in areas of high deprivation prioritised.

BUILD A WORKFORCE TO MEET PATIENT NEED

Planning the GP workforce using headcount numbers is not sufficient because it does not take into account

the working patterns of GPs. In order to meet the current and future needs of patients in Scotland, general practice workforce planning must be realistic and reflect the differing needs of communities across Scotland.

PROMOTE SCOTTISH GENERAL PRACTICE

Increased exposure to general practice during training encourages medical students to pursue a career in the profession. General practice should be supported through adequate investment to enable 25% of the undergraduate medical school curriculum to be delivered in primary care. GPs who wish to return to general practice in Scotland after moving abroad should be able to do so as easily as possible through adequately funded and publicised return-to-practice schemes.

PROVIDE TIME TO CARE

GPs must be given the time that they need to care for their patients. Increasingly, 10-minute appointments don't work for patients or GPs. With minimum 15-minute appointments being provided as standard, patients would be given more choice over their care. To achieve this, more GPs must be introduced into the system.

SAFEGUARD THE FUTURE OF THE NHS IN SCOTLAND

We need a National Conversation, led jointly by politicians, healthcare professionals and patients, to promote sustainable use of the NHS and safeguard its future.

The Royal College of General Practitioners (Scotland) is a network of around 5,000 family doctors working to improve care for patients. We work to encourage and maintain the highest standards of general medical practice and act as the voice of GPs on education, training, research and clinical standards.