

## Chaperone Policy at The Ashe Street Clinic and the Kerry Skin Clinic.

We will always respect your privacy, dignity, and your religious and cultural beliefs, particularly when **intimate examinations** are advisable. These will only be carried out with your express agreement.

If you are seeing the doctor for a mole check, a skin cancer check or a generalized rash, you may have to **remove your clothing down to your underwear** during the examination.

If you are seeing the doctor or nurse with a problem in your breast, groin or buttock (e.g. smear test, prostate or rectal examination, penis or vaginal problem) you may have to **remove your underwear** for the examination.

In both these circumstances you may bring a friend or relative with you during the examination (**a chaperone**). If you are unable to bring someone, you may request that the clinic provide a nurse or another trained staff member to attend with the doctor or nurse during an intimate examination.

In certain circumstances, the doctor or nurse may require a chaperone to join her/him during an intimate examination for your comfort and the safety of both you and the doctor/nurse.

You may request a chaperone when making the appointment or on arrival at the surgery (please let the receptionist know) or at any time during the consultation.

