**Doncare at the Medical Centre**

**Winter 2013**

**Welcome to the winter addition**

Flu Vaccinations

The Flu vaccination is still available here at the medical centre. If you fall under any of the categories below you are eligible for the vaccine.

* Patients with chronic illnesses E.G. Asthma, COPD and Diabetes
* Pregnant women (at any stage of their pregnancy)
* All patients over the age of 65
* Carers of the elderly and disabled
* All 2 and 3 year old children (nasal vaccination Fluenz)
* Everyone living in a residential/nursing home
* Household contacts of anyone who is immunocompromised
* All frontline healthcare workers and social care workers (not available at your surgery you will need to contact your occupational health department)

Feel free to ask a member of staff about other vaccines available for example the Shingles vaccine (Shingles Vaccination is for patients aged 70 & 79 only this year)

Practice Website

We would like to inform patients that we have a new modern, easy to use practice website. You can access the website by going on [www.medicalcentredoncaster.co.uk](http://www.medicalcentredoncaster.co.uk). The website includes useful information about services on offer here at the surgery. It also includes useful contact numbers. You can also access the systm online service via the website.

Systm Online Service

Systm online is a free service available to all patients that have access to the internet. It will give patient the opportunity to order prescriptions, ability to change your own personal contact details, online booking and cancelling of appointments. If you wish to use this service please contact a member of staff for your own user name and password details.

Patient Group

We continue to try and encourage our patients to get involved in the patient participation group meetings held here at the practice. Unfortunately we only have 1 more group meeting this year which will be held on the 12th December at 1.30pm. The December meeting is to get an overview on how patients feel the practice has performed over the past 12 months. We also plan what patients wish to discuss at next year’s meeting, this could be meeting with services within Doncaster and gaining a better insight into healthcare. We make arrangements for patients to meet with the doctors and management at the surgery to ensure that they are involved in decisions about the range of services provided here at the practice. If you are interested in developing the practice and wish to have your voice heard or would just like some more information about the services we run please attend the meetings. The Dates of next year’s meetings are listed below.

* 20th February
* 3rd April
* 15th May
* 26th June
* 7th August
* 18th September
* 30th October
* 11th December

Updating patient details

If you have moved address, changed your telephone number or you have changed your name please contact the surgery to let us know. It is important we have up to date details on all our patients as we may need to get hold of you with results ETC.

Christmas period closing times

24th December Christmas Eve- Open as normal 8am till 6pm

25th December Christmas Day-Closed All day

26th December Boxing Day- Closed All Day

27th December- Open as normal 8am-6pm

If you take ill over the Christmas period and require a medical attention, ring the surgery on the usual number (01302 349431) you will automatically be diverted the Out of Hours Service.

If you just need medical advice you can call 111 and speak with Emergency and Urgent Care Services.

Please speak to your local pharmacy with regards to service and opening times over the Christmas period.

Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year

From all the staff at the Medical Centre