

**DonCare at The Medical Centre**

**Newsletter**

**Spring Edition 2013**

Staff Changes

Sadly as we move into spring we will lose two of our members of staff here at The Medical Centre. Our Assistant Practice Manager Angela will be leaving the surgery 1st week of April & starting a new job as Assistant Manager at The Regent Square Practice. Admin Support Staff Naseem will be leaving us and starting her maternity leave as she is due a baby beginning of May. We wish them both all the best.

On a much brighter note we would like to welcome our new Admin Support Staff Member called Michelle who joined the practice in March.

The practice believes in giving support to young people and helping them develop please welcome our new apprentice Ayesha who will be working along side the admin support staff.

Patient Participation Group

We hold a PPG meeting roughly every 6-8 weeks to keep patients up to date on any changes within surgery and to give you the opportunity of getting involved and having your say on the way we run. The sessions are informal and are usually led by a speaker delivering a specific topic which has been chosen by the group and practice manager. The sessions are always on a Thursday afternoon from 1.30pm. If you would like to keep up to date but prefer not to come into surgery we offer a virtual PPG. Patients can be contacted via Email. If you require anymore information feel free to ask a member of staff.

PPG Dates & Agenda for 2013

* 2nd May-Stroke Outreach
* 20th June-Roger Cancer Information & Support St Johns Hospice
* 1st August-Doncaster Clinical Commissioning (Dr Barbour) & Meet out new GP Dr Ferguson
* 12th September-Annual Report- What we have done and your opportunity to comment
* 7th November-Counsellor Louise Kelly
* 12th December- Planning next years programme

Advance booking appointments

Just to remind all patients that routine appointments for both GP’s and Nurses can be booked in advance. We also offer early morning appointments on Wednesdays and Thursdays starting at 7.30am and a late evening clinic on Mondays and Tuesdays 6.00pm-6.30pm.

Text Message appointment confirmation

We are now able to confirm appointments by text. When booking appointments a text message will be sent with the date and time of your next appointment. If you would prefer for us to send you text confirmation instead of using appointment cards please make the receptionist aware and leave an up to date contact telephone number.

On-line Prescription Ordering

We still offer patients the facility to request repeat prescriptions over our On-line Ordering System. To get started ask a member of staff for your own user name and password. You will then be shown all the items that are on repeat prescription. You simply tick the ones you require and send. The request will then be sent directly to a receptionist who will create your prescription. If you require an item which isn’t shown on your repeat prescription list you can leave us a note.

Holiday Vaccines

If you are thinking of travelling abroad it might be a good idea to speak to our treatment room nurses. They offer travel advice and will check if all your vaccinations are up to date and you are covered against any tropical disease. Some vaccinations have to be given a few months in advance to obtain full cover. Contact the nurses for further information.

Medication

If you have any repeat medication that you no longer require or don’t require for a month or so please let a member of staff know. Alternatively contact our practice pharmacist Alison for an annual medication review.

Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group

From the first April 2013 Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (DCCG) goes live as a commissioning organisation. One of DCCG's key roles is to buy health services for the 309,000 patients who are registered with a GP practice based in the borough. Our budget for the forthcoming year is £440 million, with such a massive budget comes a huge responsibility for procuring quality services to deliver the best possible health outcomes for the people of Doncaster. The Government have given GPs the lead in Clinical Commissioning Groups and in Doncaster GPs have embraced this opportunity to make a difference.  The 150 Doncaster GPs have elected 11 GPs to the DCCG Governing Body, Dr Pat Barbour is one of these 11 GPs. Dr Barbour hasn't reduced her commitment to The Medical Centre but in addition she also has commissioning responsibilities and leads on Children's Services and Primary Care Quality. A current priority within Children's Sevices has been to improve the Autism Service which currently is under-resourced and has long waiting lists, Dr Barbour is working with local paediatricians and health care managers to achieve a more timely assessment and better support around the child and family. There are many new projects underway and patient opinion is important to us.

Doncaster CCG wants to hear your views. Contact us.

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