



DIDCOT HEALTH CENTRE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

NEWSLETTER 2018 Vol 2

dhc.ppg@gmail.com

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

Many thanks to everyone who attended the AGM on June 27th, including Senior Partner Dr David Stainthorp, who gave us an update on developments at the practice. Thanks also to Gill Suter, Practice Administrator, for getting everything set up on the night, making the room as cool as possible, and taking the Minutes.

I am delighted to welcome three new Committee members - Rob Armitage, Ann Gerring and Adiba Malo - who were elected at the AGM.

This newsletter includes information on our new Patient Survey, which will take place in

September, plus an update on the new Musculoskeletal Service, the autumn flu vaccination campaign and a note on measles.



Shelagh Garvey, Chair of PPG Committee

PATIENT SURVEY 12th-19th SEPTEMBER

The PPG Committee have developed a new Patient Survey, to find out what patients know or want to know about sources of help available. The survey is short – nine questions – and shouldn't take long to complete.

Members of our email consultation group will be sent the questionnaire electronically, and members of the PPG Committee will be in the

surgery at various times to meet patients face-to-face and invite them to participate.

We hope you will be able to help us if asked to participate - your views are important to us and to the practice. If you wish to join our email consultation group, please tell a Committee member or email us on dhc.ppg@gmail.com

UPDATE ON MUSCULOSKELETAL SERVICES

The MSK services – previously provided by Oxford Health Foundation Trust and Oxford University Hospitals Foundation Trust - for patients referred by their GP are now provided by Healthshare, a private company working exclusively on NHS contracts. MSK services arranged directly by the hospitals, for example following surgery, are not part of this contract.

Healthshare took over the contract in October 2017, and the new service provides:

- ❖ manual therapy, including tailored exercise regimes, weight management advice, signposting to other agencies;
- ❖ specialist physiotherapy – hands, paediatrics, women's health, mild to moderate chronic pain;

- ❖ specialist opinion, including ultrasound, MRI, X-ray, guided injections, direct onward referral for consultant led opinion;
- ❖ musculoskeletal podiatry services, including 'off the shelf' and bespoke orthotics;
- ❖ self-referral option currently delayed.

MSK services are currently offered in nine community locations across Oxfordshire; the Didcot service is offered at the Woodlands Medical Centre. Information

from Healthshare is that 37.2% of referrals are triaged within 48 hours and 86.8% are offered a first urgent appointment within five days. 97.6% of patients are offered a routine appointment within 20 days.

Healthshare performance against key performance indicators and outcomes is reported monthly to the Clinical Commissioning Group. Healthwatch Oxfordshire is also conducting its own monitoring exercise.

FLU SEASON 2018-19

Flu clinics will begin on **Saturday morning 29/09/2018**. There will be 3 different types of flu vaccine this year:

- ❖ live attenuated influenza vaccine (LAIV) nasal spray for 2-18-year olds;
- ❖ quadrivalent vaccine (QIV) for 18 – 65 year olds at risk;
- ❖ adjuvanted trivalent vaccine (aTIV) for all over 65s.

Your date of birth will be checked at time of booking, to ensure you receive the correct vaccine with the optimal protection for your age.

Vaccinations will be offered, under the NHS flu vaccination programme, to the following groups:

- ❖ aged two and three on 31/8/18 (date of birth on/after 1/9/14 and on/before 31/8/16);
- ❖ all children in Reception Class and years 1-5 (date of birth on/after 1/9/08 and on/before 31/8/14) - will be carried out at school;
- ❖ people aged 65 years or over (including those reaching age 65 by 31/3/19);
- ❖ people with a learning disability;
- ❖ pregnant women (including women who

- become pregnant during the flu season);
- ❖ people living in long-stay residential care homes or other long-stay care facilities;
- ❖ people aged from six months to less than 65 years of age, with a serious medical condition, including: -
 - chronic respiratory disease, e.g. severe asthma;
 - chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or bronchitis;
 - chronic heart disease;
 - chronic kidney disease at stage 3/4/5;
 - chronic liver disease;
 - chronic neurological disease, e.g. Parkinson's Disease or Motor Neurone disease;
 - diabetes;
 - splenic dysfunction or asplenia;
 - weakened immune system due to disease (e.g. HIV/AIDS) or treatment (e.g. cancer treatment);
 - morbid obesity (defined as BMI of 40 and above).

Thanks to Sarah Hyner, Practice Nurse Team Leader, for programme information

MEASLES ON THE RISE!

Cases of Measles are going up in the UK and Europe. Take-up rates for the MMR vaccine are now back up to over 90% in the UK, but many young people will have missed out, after a period of low take-up from 1998 onwards.

Measles is seriously nasty - 37 deaths in Europe from January to June. A healthy child might be lucky, but a fragile child or

anyone with a compromised immune system is at enormous risk.

Measles is highly contagious – if you know anyone who has not been vaccinated, especially if going abroad, or to secondary school or university, please encourage them to get vaccinated a.s.a.p.