Cervical Cancer Screening

Regular cervical screening provides a high degree of protection against developing cervical cancer. Each

year screening saves 5000 lives in the UK. Not going for cervical screening is one of the biggest risk factors for developing cervical cancer.

Remember, cervical screening is **NOT** a test for cancer. Instead it is a screening test to detect abnormalities that can be treated to prevent cancer developing.

**Who is eligible for screening?**

To be invited for cervical screening you need to be registered with a GP, who needs to have your current

address on file. The NHS call and recall system invites all women who are eligible for screening. This system also keeps track of any follow-up investigation and if all

is well, recalls you for screening at the appropriate time for you – either 3 or 5 years.

Having your cervical screening sample taken should only

take a matter of minutes. In the surgery the Practice Nurses take the majority of cervical screening samples.

You can bring a relative or friend with you if you need support.

Before the procedure starts the nurse should explain what is going to happen and answer any questions

or concerns you may have.

Appointments should be made mid cycle or at least 5 clear days after your period. Patients are also asked to bring along a urine sample.

Staff News

In March we sadly said goodbye to Dr Gordon who has taken up a new position at a local surgery. Please join us in wishing him well for the future. All of Dr Gordon’s patients have been moved to Dr Clive Smith or, if preferred, this can be changed to Dr Zoe Davis.

We are pleased to advise that

Dr Allen will be staying with the Practice after he finishes his GP training in August.

Dr Chiddick joined the Practice in February and will be with us for six months. Dr Hamilton-Grey, GP Registrar, will be with us for the next four months .

We also have two new Foundation Stage 2 doctors joining the practice shortly;

Dr Marshall & Dr Williams who will be with us for four months.

We are delighted to welcome

Dr Booth, Dr Parsons,

Dr Lightfoot and Dr Cowen – all highly experienced locum doctors – providing additional support until the summer.

The Nursing Team would like to welcome Sharon Taylor, Emergency Nurse and Rachel Mathias, Diabetes Specialist Nurse to the team and say farewell to Haley Faulds, Diabetes Nurse.

**www.boamhp.co.uk**

Patient Voice Email Group

Did you know the surgery has setup an email group for those patients who are unable to attend a Patient Participation Group meeting so that they are still able to have their say?

We ask the members of the email group some questions from time to time, such as what you think about our opening times or the quality of the care or service you received. We will contact you via email and keep our surveys succinct so it shouldn’t take too much of your time.

We need young people, workers, retirees, people with long term conditions and people from non-British ethnic groups. If you are happy for us to contact you occasionally by email please register your interest by sending an e-mail to boamhp.patientvoice@nhs.net

Your contribution will be very much valued and appreciated.

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**PRACTICE NEWSLETTER**

**Bradford on Avon & Melksham Health Partnership**

**Newsletter | April, May and June 2014 | Edition 28**

* Wide range of clinics
* On line booking for appointments and prescriptions working well
* Good noticeboards with useful information/leaflets and who’s who of staff
* Patient Liaison facility very useful if unsure who to speak to
* Admin managers very welcoming and appreciative of help given by volunteers as appropriate.  Good to feel involved and useful.
* Very willing to give added time to your appointment
* Stability of staff
* If you have a long term condition you can keep to the same health professional – continuity is very important
* Having the Pharmacy next door
* Having the dental practice on site
* PPG has a good rapport with admin staff
* Nurses always make you feel at ease.

The rest of the results of the SWOT analysis are under review and an action plan will be made available soon.

Bowel Cancer Awareness

In England, men and women are offered bowel cancer screening every two years from age 60 to 69. The programme is gradually being extended to also invite men and women aged 70 to 74. Older people can request a bowel screening kit by calling freephone 0800 707 6060.

So what is bowel cancer?  It occurs when the cells in your bowel multiply and attack the surrounding tissue - which can then spread to the other parts of our body.  It is also referred to as colon cancer.

But there is hope: if treated early there is a very good chance of recovery. The only problem is that only 9% of patients are diagnosed at the early stage.

`Monthly Topics of Focus

The Practice has implemented a monthly “Topic of Focus”.

Topic for April:

Repeat Prescriptions

“Only Order What You Need”

Unused prescription medicines cost the NHS across the UK over
**£300 million** every year!

**£300 million** could pay for:

* **80,906** morehip replacements\*
* **101,351** moreknee replacements\*
* **19,799** moredrug treatment courses for breast cancer\*
* **11,778** morecommunity nurses\*
* **300,000** moredrug treatment courses for Alzheimer's\*
*\*Based on average costs*

**Every little bit helps!**

Help save money for your local NHS by doing your part and only ordering the medicines you need, which means these savings could be put towards other health services.

Please take a *‘Prescriptions: Did You Know?’* flyer and speak to your Pharmacist or one of our Receptionists for more information.

Topic for May:

“How to get the best out of the appointments system”

Please pick up an information leaflet about this nearer the time.

Topic for June:

“Are you a Carer or do you have a Carer?

Carers Week 9th-15th June

Please see the Carer’s noticeboard for more information.

PPG News

**Patient Participation Awareness Week - 2nd June 2014**

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) at the surgery are holding their quarterly meeting on Tuesday 10th June, 7pm at The Health Centre, Bradford on Avon.

During the meeting the Practice will share with patients the results of the patient survey and the action plan based on these results.  There will also be a group discussion on how the PPG currently promote health matters and what else could be done in the future.  All patients are welcome to attend.

At the December PPG meeting, patients were split into groups to give us their views on the service provided by the Practice.  Each group was asked to concentrate on either our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities or Threats (SWOT).

The praise for the surgery which came out of this meeting was good to hear. Our strengths are identified as:-

* Good attitudes of staff
* Consultation by phone by doctors
* Supporting the Leg Club
* Information screens work well
* I can usually get an appointment with a doctor
* Doctors and all staff put me at ease
* Friendly helpful staff
* Doctor/patient interaction e.g doctors come to consulting room door to call in next patient.
* Well laid out reception

**Bradford on Avon & Melksham**

**Health Partnership**

Practice Website:

www.boamhp.co.uk