

PRACTICE NEWSLETTER

Bradford on Avon & Melksham Health Partnership
Newsletter | June 2016 | Edition 40



Patient Participation Group (PPG)

All meetings are held at The Health Centre, Bradford on Avon, at 7pm.

All patients are welcome to attend.

Tuesday 20th September 2016 Annual General Meeting
Ambulance Service speaker

Tuesday 6th December 2016
Indigestion & Acid Reflux speaker

Free NHS Healthcare checks



Everyone is at risk of developing heart disease, stroke and diabetes or kidney disease. The good news is that these conditions can often be prevented. We are inviting patients to come in to the surgery. If you're in the 40-74 age groups without a pre-existing condition, you can expect to receive a letter from your GP inviting you for a free NHS Health Check. Don't worry if you haven't got your invitation yet, as you will be invited for one over the next few years.

Online Services

Have You Seen Our Surgery Website?

We would encourage you to visit the surgery website www.boamhp.co.uk which gives much more information on the practice, the services we offer our patients, patient advice, surgery news and local initiatives

Did you know the Practice provides the following online Services?

On-line access to latest News

The Practice website is continuously being updated sharing local and national campaigns, new services in the area and general health information.

On-line Appointment Booking/Repeat Prescribing

Our 24 hour on-line service. You can use it to:

Book doctor's appointment.

Order prescriptions

Update your personal details

It's quick and easy to use but to get started you must first register your details with reception so that you can be issued with a registration letter. This will contain your personal PIN number and Access ID to allow you internet access. It's obviously very important that only genuine patients are registered so this Registration letter can only be obtained IN PERSON at Reception.

Take part in Patient surveys Friends and Family Test

When you receive care from the surgery, you can fill out a short questionnaire to give us feedback that will help to improve local services for everyone. We look at the feedback on a monthly basis and use the information to make decisions that will make local services better for local people. Patients were asked 'How likely would you recommend our GP Practice to Friends and Family if they needed similar care or treatment?'

Access to a wealth of medical advice

Help us to help you The Home Treatment Guide

The Doctors of the Practice have formulated some wording to help you manage some of your conditions at home. The information gives a wealth of useful medicines and dressings, with a description of their uses and are worth stocking at home in readiness for minor illnesses. Basic first aid advice is also provided to help manage common ailments such as back pain, coughs, cystitis, stomach ache, sinusitis, earache and many more.

Surgery News Dr Fiona Tees



The Practice is sorry to announce that as from the end of July, Dr Fiona Tees will be leaving the Bradford on Avon & Melksham Health Partnership to pursue a change in her career. Dr Tees will be changing to work in Occupational Medicine and will still be working within the Occupational Health service of the Practice based at St Margaret's Surgery. Dr Tees has really enjoyed her work as a GP in BOA, and will miss all her patients, but has commented that they will be in very good hands in the care of excellent GPs who are committed to providing the best possible care for them. Dr Tees' last day will be 29th July. Patients will be informed in due course who their new Doctor will be.

Advice Bus is coming to Wiltshire



From July 2016 Age UK Wiltshire is launching an exciting new service, the Advice Bus. This will help age UK take their information & Advice service into Wiltshire's rural communities where you will be able to speak to one of their advisers to get free, impartial, confidential advice for older people. For more information please visit our website wwboamhp.co.uk.

Only order what you need

Repeat Prescriptions



Only Order What You Need

A report by the Department of Health estimates that unused medicines cost the NHS around £300 million every year, with an estimated £110 million worth of medicines returned to pharmacies, £90 million worth of unused prescriptions being stored in homes and £50 million worth of medicines disposed of by Care homes.

Did you know?

Even if you never open them, once you leave a pharmacy your medicines cannot be recycled or used by anyone else. This means that any you return are destroyed.

Before heading to the pharmacy, take a look in your medicine cabinet to see what you actually need, you may have ordered extra of a repeat prescription you don't really need.

How you can help

Wasted medicines are everyone's responsibility and there are small changes you can make to help reduce the amount of medicines being wasted. These savings could be reinvested into more front line care and services for the benefit of all.

- Discuss your medication with your GP or Pharmacist on a regular basis.
- Think carefully before ticking all the boxes on your repeat prescription forms and only tick those for medication you are running short of.
- If you have sufficient supplies please don't over order. If you need the medicine in the future you can still request it later.
- If you need to go into hospital, please remember to take all your medicines in their original containers with you in a clearly marked bag.
- Please also remember that your medicines are prescribed only for you; it's not safe to share them with anyone else.
- Please return any unused medicines to your Pharmacy or Dispensing GP practice for safe disposal, do not put unwanted medicines into the household waste, down the drain or toilet.

Cancellation line – Tel 01225 860025

In the month of May we had 265 patients who **“Did Not Attend”** their appointment.

Our appointments are in high demand and due to the amount of patients not attending we are finding it hard to meet patient's needs. Please cancel your appointment by using the cancellation line 01225 860025 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.