



The Green Street Newsletter

Issue 11 – October 2014

Welcome!

To the latest edition of the Newsletter. We realise most Patients now know about the Patient Participation and 'Friends' Groups either from past Letters, Surveys or from our Notice Boards, but just in case.....

Both patient groups work closely with the team at the surgery to discuss how we can improve our surgery's services and standards and to continue to meet the needs of our patients where we can.

We are looking for new members for both or either groups and look forward to hearing from you if you have an hour or so to spare each week to help us.

With this edition we are pleased to include comments below from Joan.

If you would like to get involved please leave your contact details with Reception.

Hi, my name is Joan & I joined the Friends in February. My regular session is on a Tuesday morning for 1 to 1 ½ hours.

One of the jobs that keeps me busy is the notice boards in the waiting rooms. I update with new information as and when necessary and provide leaflets on the boards for patients to help themselves to. I also check the books and toys and ensure they are clean and tidy. When necessary I assist with the automated check in for those patients not quite sure how to use it and explain how it works. This helps the staff and reduces the queue at reception.

Sometimes the surgery has surveys and I assisted with the out of hours one which ran from July to September. So as you can see a variety of jobs that need attention, so no time to be bored. If you feel you cannot help with any of the things that I have already mentioned, there is also chatting with patients/family whilst they are waiting for there appointment, also opening doors for those that find it difficult. For those of you that have a spare hour morning or afternoon we would like you to join our team.

Flu! Shingles! Pneumonia! Fluenz!

If you have received a letter from us inviting you to attend one of our clinics, it's not too late! We have several clinics running throughout October, November and December. Details of all vaccines schedules can be seen overleaf.

Tell us

What areas would you like to see covered in future Newsletters?

Amazing!

MacMillan Coffee Morning
Our Bake Sale raised over £300!
Thank you to everyone that supported us by buying our homemade cakes.



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Flu! Flu! Flu! Flu! Flu! Flu! Flu! Flu! Flu! Flu!

Don't miss your chance for a flu vaccination. We are currently vaccinating:

- Patients over 65
- Pregnant Women
- Patients with low immunity
- Carers (in receipt of Carers allowance)
- Patients with Heart Disease
- Patients with Respiratory Disease
- Patients with Diabetes or Kidney Disease
- Patients in long term residential care

We are sorry but vaccinations are not available on the NHS unless you are in one of these groups.

Pneumococcal Vaccination

The pneumococcal or pneumonia vaccine protects against pneumococcal infections such as pneumonia, septicaemia (a type of blood poisoning) and meningitis. Pneumococcal infection can affect anyone. However, some people need the pneumococcal vaccination because they are at higher risk of complications. These include:

- adults aged 65 or over
- children and adults with certain long-term health conditions, such as a serious heart or kidney condition

People over 65 only need a single pneumococcal vaccination which will protect for life. It is not given annually like the flu jab.

Shingles Vaccination

A Shingles vaccine is now available to reduce the number of people developing shingles and the severity of the illness in those who develop it.

About one in five people who have had chickenpox develop shingles. It is more common in people over 70 years old. Patients who are 70 years of age on 1st September will be invited for a shingles vaccine this year.

A catch-up programme is also running and the vaccine will be offered to patients who are aged 78 & 79 years on 1st September 2014. Over the next several years, all people between 70 and 79 will have the opportunity to have the vaccine, however, at the moment; there are limited stocks of vaccine available. The catch-up age of 78 & 79 has therefore been chosen to protect the most vulnerable of the population. After the age of 80 years, the vaccine becomes less effective, so people need to receive it before this age.

Please note that due to national guidance we are only able to vaccinate patients who are 70, 78 or 79 years old on 1st September this year.

Fluenz (Childhood Flu Vaccines Programme)

- If you have children aged two, three or four, don't put off bringing them in for their free flu vaccination
- The nasal spray vaccination is quick, effective and painless and available to children aged 2, 3 or 4 on 1st September 2014.
- Clinics are available throughout October & November, if you have received a letter please book with Reception