

Minutes of Patient Participation Group Meeting

Tuesday 10th March 2020

Apologies: Ann

Present: Carol, Mel, Elaine, Julia, Karen, Michelle, Janette Dr Kalian

Minutes from last meeting

All agreed. The changes to friends and family will take place from 1st April 2020. The newsletter produced following the last meeting has been published. Copies are available in all of the waiting rooms, a laminated copy in each waiting room, and a copy on the website.

PPG talks

Carol has done some investigations. St Luke's practice in Duston did 2 talks last year on arthritis and food allergies. They have further talks planned on Parkinsons, the menopause, joint pain and tinnitus. The talks are held at the surgery and organised in conjunction with Duston Parish Council. The group agreed that we would like to pursue this, and arrange some talks for our patients. However it is not the right time to arrange meetings at the moment with concerns about Coronavirus. We will therefore pick this up in the future.

Carer activity

We have 278 carers. Contact is made with the local junior and senior schools to ask young carers to let us know of their situation.

Friends and family review

We had 5 responses. 4 were extremely likely to recommend us, and one was likely. All good comments.

Interactive session for PPG's in our PCN

The PPG would be interested in joining a joint training session with other PPGs in our area to discuss how PPGs can support Practices. KW will feed this back to the PCN, and more information to follow.

Newsletter

Possible subjects for the next newsletter include Coronavirus, relieving pressure on 111, use of the 111 online Coronavirus checker and self-help information such as handwashing and not touching face.

Coronavirus

We had a question and answer session with Dr Kalian regarding the Coronavirus. Dr Kalian stated that there is no current advice suggesting schools or meetings should be closed down, or cancelled. It is however good for everybody to review their own practices. Normal hygiene such as handwashing is helpful. People are advised to stay at home if unwell. General Practice are considering other ways to consult with patients without bringing them into the surgery if they have an infection. Dr Kalian advised that the Coronavirus itself is not a great concern, but it can lead into pneumonia. She advised that the pneumonia vaccination protects against a bacteria that causes pneumonia, and would not protect against viral pneumonia stemming from Coronavirus.

The concern with Coronavirus is that it spreads quickly, but as an illness it is not any different to flu or other viruses.

We can consider putting information about how to self-isolate and the services available for people who are self-isolating in the next newsletter.

Meeting dates 2020

14th April

12th May

8th June

14th July

11th August

8th September

13th October

10th November

8th December