

# Birbeck Medical Group

Practice News

September 2017

We have been very busy recruiting and there have been lots of changes within the Practice.

We are pleased to announce your Practice team as follows .....

We welcome Dr Catherine Kenning and Dr Suzie Pritchard to the Partnership.

They join our existing Partners Dr John Ellerton, Dr Peter Hodkin and Dr Gail Marshall.

Supporting the Partners we have our Salaried GPs: Dr Binu Lukose, Dr Jo Lewis, Dr Ian Pritchard, Dr Katherine McConkey, Dr Joanna Hughes, Dr Jane Shaw, Dr Helen Long and Dr Numan Yusuf. We also welcome our GP Registrar, Dr Michael Freeman, who has joined us for a period of six months.

Sadly, we have said goodbye to Dr Adam Newson, we wish him and his family well on his new adventure in Canada.

Alongside our Doctors we have a highly skilled team of Health Care Professionals.

**Nurse Practitioner**—We say hello to Tracy Armstrong

Tracy is a specialist in Sexual and Women's Health.

We are hoping to extend our current services so watch out for further information.

**Pharmacist** - We welcome Lesley Sheik

Lesley is a Practice Pharmacist / Independent Prescriber. We are able to offer our patients a telephone consultation with Lesley to assist with complex medication queries.

**Musculoskeletal (MSK) Practitioners**— Lucy Rowley and Paul Hetherington

Lucy and Paul have joined us from the Penrith Physiotherapy Team as part of a local pilot to provide prompt and appropriate management for joint, muscle or ligament conditions.

## Access Review

We have listened to our patients and we are currently undertaking a review of how you access the care you need. Over a four-week period we have looked at our activity, capacity and demand and are currently discussing solutions to improve access by exploring things such as new types of consultations, active signposting, developing the team and reducing missed appointments.

We ask for your understanding during the implementation process.

## Missed Appointments

On average we have 71 missed GP appointments every month - this equates to over 17 hours of surgery time!! If you no longer need your appointment or cannot attend then let us know

## Surgery Opening Hours

Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.30pm (emergency cover from 8am)

Wednesday and Thursday 6.30pm to 8.30pm (no telephone service, pre-booked appointments)

Occasional Saturdays 8.30am to 12.30pm (no telephone service, pre-booked appointments)

## Flu Vaccination

You can now book your Flu Vaccination.

We are offering Saturday morning sessions along with weekday clinics for your convenience. When we receive notification of the delivery date for the children's vaccine we will be writing to the parents of all 2-3 year olds as part of the Childhood Immunisation Programme

## Shingles Vaccination

As soon as you turn 70 you become eligible to receive a shingles vaccination.

There is also a catch-up programme for those who have been missed.

You may be eligible for vaccination until your 80th birthday.

## Meningococcal Vaccination

Teenagers and Freshers heading to University are advised to have a Men ACWY vaccination to prevent meningitis and septicaemia which can be deadly.

Anyone born between 1st September 1998 and 31st August 1999 is advised to be vaccinated.

In addition, anyone born after 1st September 1996 who missed their vaccination at school is eligible for vaccination up until their 25th birthday.

Please contact our Reception to check eligibility and book an appointment.

## Patient Participation Group

We recognise that Birbeck Medical Group is an important local service to you and it is necessary we hear about your experiences, views and ideas for making the service better as well as understanding the challenges the practice faces at the present time.

If you are interested in becoming a member or wish to learn more then please contact Shyam Bajoria by email: shyambajoria@yahoo.co.uk or by telephone: 07918123553

Our next meeting will be held on 11 October 2017 at Penrith Fire Station at 6pm and all patients of Birbeck Medical Group are welcome to attend.

## Staff Training

The Practice will be closed from 1pm to allow for staff training on the following afternoons:

Weds 20th September, Weds 11th October, Thurs 16th November

If you require urgent medical help and it is not life threatening, please call 111

The Surgery will re-open the following day

**Tel: 01768 214620**

**Fax: 01768 214622**

**[www.birbeckmedicalgroup.co.uk](http://www.birbeckmedicalgroup.co.uk)**