

## **PPG MEETING MINUTES 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

### **Surgery update**

1. Three new registrars this year, Dr Riffat Hawa, Dr Imad Ahmed and Dr Helen Malcolm. They are all in their final year of GP training.

2. There will be a Carers Coffee morning on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017 from 10am-12noon at the surgery- all welcome.

3. Flu Clinic appointments are available to book online via patient access. Our flu clinics for adults are on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> September and 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October. All eligible children have been written to for their vaccine.

For more details on who is eligible for a flu vaccine- please visit our website.

4. Herts Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group are seeking patient views surrounding funding for various treatments- the campaign is called LETS TALK. Please visit HVCCG website for more details and to have your say.

5. The surgery is doing their bit to try and cut costs without compromising patient care- some initiatives we are implementing are: choosing the most cost effective drugs to prescribe, only prescribing antibiotics when they are really necessary, not sending all urine samples to the laboratory for culture following revised protocols, only ordering the necessary blood tests for monitoring certain conditions/drug therapies

6. One PPG member had reported receiving spam e mails from the PPG email address. This has been investigated by the surgery and the website providers. No e mail addresses have been compromised. The issue was there was a PPG open forum on the website and if you posted a comment in there and ticked a box that you wanted to receive notification of all other comments posted then e mails would be sent to you. The spam had been put in as a comment in the forum and because the box had been ticked, notifications of the spam kept being sent to the individual. The forum has been taken down.

7. The Practice Manager, Liz Richards is leaving the surgery after 3 years to move on to a new opportunity at One Stop Doctors in Hemel Hempstead. The surgery will be interviewing prospective candidates for her replacement in September. An interim PM called Jenny Simmons will be at the surgery between November and January. Liz Richards thanked the PPG for their support throughout her time there.

### **Review of July meeting with CCG**

Alan and a few other members attended a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> July to have a discussion about the funding cuts proposed by the CCG and the impact on patient care. It was attended by David Buckle and David Evans.

The PPG was very unimpressed by David Buckle who appeared under prepared. Alan Bellinger wrote to the CCG to give this feedback and David Evans will attend a PPG meeting to explain the CCG plans further

Dr Panja informed PPG members of a conference he had attended about the NHS, he recommended the PPG to watch the following first few minutes of the videos called NHS root causes and NHS - what's next?

<https://videos.rsm.ac.uk/>

Here is Richard Murphy's excellent analysis (also what he said in the video):

<http://www.taxresearch.org.uk/Blog/2017/08/20/talking-about-the-nhs/>

### **SADC Grant and constitution**

Alan Bellinger thanked the PPG for pulling together to form a constitution and for submitting a bid for a grant from the council to develop the social prescribing at the surgery. The grant was awarded and then unfortunately withdrawn approximately two weeks later. Alan Bellinger is to attend a meeting with Lizzy Bonner (deputy practice manager) to appeal this decision and ask for transparency as to why the funding was withdrawn.

### **Social Prescribing**

The scheme really needs more volunteers. Alan Bellinger asked for this in newsletter and some came forward who Angela Betteridge is going to induct.

The scheme also needs more referrals- Liz Richards will remind GP's and receptionists.

Social prescribing is part of the GP 5 year forward view.

### **Core Issues for the PPG**

From January when there will be a new PM, a new relationship will need to be forged. The January and March meeting should focus on what the PPG should look like going forward and what the PPG want to do. Some thinking time between now and then.

Next meeting 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 7pm- provisional at the moment as David Evans from the CCG will be attending so date may need to be altered.