



Patient Participation Group Meeting
Tuesday 19th March 2019

Attendees:

Patients

Alan Tweddle – AT
Ginette Tweddle – GT
Helen Holmes – HH
Shenene Fontenelle-Struthers – SFS
Harry Frith – HF
David Connolly – DC
John Cornhill – JC

SMG – Staff

Dr Phil Lamballe – PLL – GP Partner
David Nicholson – DN – Practice Manager
Caroline Morris – CM – Assistant Practice Manager

Apologises

George Holmes – GH
Alan Gowers – AG
Jean Kyle – JK
Alan Rule – AR
Linda Rule – LR

1. Previous Minutes

Surgery Premises Development update, still waiting for information.

2. Practice Update

Dr Kate Williams has returned as a Salaried GP and Dr Ruth Grant who came to us as a Locum, has also joined as a Salaried GP.

Tracy Millwater, is one of the new Nurse Practitioners that was mentioned at previous meetings. She is now thriving in her role visiting and acting as liaison with the housebound patients. She will also be conducting audits to see how many of home visits could be carried out by a more junior Nurse or other clinical staff members.

Sally Shillinglaw commenced work on 21st January 2019 as Clinical Pharmacist and she will work alongside and assist Daryl Thompson our Senior Clinical Pharmacist in a number of prescribing roles and patient safety projects. She will attend external training (throughout) the 3 year scheme with us and subject to her completing her training successfully will join us permanently as a Saville Medical Group employee.

After the success of employing Lynn Swinney as a Career Start Nurse, Lynn now has a permanent contract with Saville Medical Group; we are taking on another Career Start Nurse who will start with us in the next 3 months.

We have had 11 Paramedic placements and have some Student Nurse placements, both operated through Northumbria University. These have gone very well and we will continue with both placements in the future.

I would also like to say congratulations to Doreen Smith; she has won “Outstanding Health Care Support Worker” in the Cumbria & North East NHSE General Practice Angels of the North awards.

3. New GP Contract / Primary Care Networks

As ever the yearly revision of the contract that GP Practices work under has been revised.

This year has seen the most significant headline changes and potentially a much overdue increase in funding, however we are still waiting for the details of much of these changes.

The most significant change is the introduction of Primary Care Networks (PCN's) which the government have introduced to encourage Practices to form smaller neighbourhood groups covering patient populations of 30,000 – 50,000 to form

partnerships with local healthcare agencies, community services etc. This does not necessarily mean Practices need to come together formally.

Pace of implementation has been rapid, formal sign off is in May through a NHSE enhanced service. Again we have not seen the details but figures to finance this change are being released through BMA, medical press etc.

We are currently being supported by and working with the CCG and have been nominally grouped with the Newcastle Medical Centre, who we are working with as a "Primary Care Network in Progress".

Deadline for formal sign off is 31st May 2019.

4. Developing Online Practices

EPS prescriptions, as of December 2018, 72% of our population were EPS, although a minimum has not yet been set we expect it will be around 80%.

eConsults, online consultation system is now live and we have seen an increase of patient usage within the Practice.

NHS App will be available within Newcastle and Gateshead Practices by April 2019; this will allow access to anything from ordering prescriptions, booking appointments and securely viewing your medical records.

5. Any Other Business

PLL informed us that although eConsult's were now live, the Access Doctor would still remain within the Practice.

AT discussed the waiting room information boards and that the TV screen was an impressive way to display information. At the moment Newbiggin Hall surgery has no TV screen, DN informed us that he had applied for extra TV screens.

Date of next meeting to be arranged.