



Newsletter Autumn 2015

The Old Court House Surgery Robin Hood Lane Surgery Dr Grice and Partners

NEWS FROM THE PRACTICE

'Flu clinics are now on

Don't forget to get your free 'flu vaccination if you are over 65, or in an 'at risk' group - patients with asthma, diabetes, chronic lung or kidney disease, cancer or pregnant women and children under 5 years old. Book your appointment at Reception. Your GP or a nurse can also offer you vaccination at a routine appointment, please ask them.

Are you a carer?

Carers Rights Day- Friday 20th of November 2015. During the morning staff from Sutton Carers Centre will have a stand in Reception at the OCH. Come and meet them to discuss your role as a carer.

Please let us know if you are a carer to either one of your family members, or indeed, you do it outside of your home, professionally. It will enable us to be aware of your situation and signpost you to community based support available to carers if needed. This would also mean, you would be eligible to receive free 'flu immunisation on an annual basis.

A named accountable GP for all patients

Your named accountable GP is responsible for the overall care provided to you at this Practice.

They will take lead responsibility for the coordination of any health services that are required.

For patients 75 years and older the Named Accountable GP will also work with relevant

health and social care professionals to deliver a multidisciplinary care package that meets the need of the patient and will ensure access to a health check.

Your Named Accountable GP will be shown on your prescriptions. If you wish to know who your GP is, or you wish to change to another GP, please ask at Reception.

Interpreter

An interpreter can be provided to you during consultations. However please let us know at the time of booking your appointment as this needs to be arranged in advance.

Disabled bays in the car park

We are fortunate to have a few disabled parking bays for our patients. However we have had to put some restrictions on them, in order to keep the bays available only to those disabled badge owners, who are coming to the Surgery. Unfortunately some people have been using the bays when they simply come to Sutton High Street. We therefore ask you to obtain a permit from the Reception when parking on our premises. This will hopefully mean that whenever you need a space there will be one available to you.

Phlebotomy Clinics(Blood tests)

We are very pleased to announce that blood testing is now available not only on Tuesdays (walk-in service) but also on Thursday and Friday mornings, by appointment. Please check our website for details.

NEWS FROM THE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Very interesting and challenging times are coming which will all have an impact on health and social services here in Sutton.

In April the Sutton Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCG) took on the role of commissioning Primary Care services, in partnership with NHS England. Whilst now only 6 months into that situation, the SCCG have already been asked by NHS England if they want to apply for full devolution of these Primary Care services, as from next April. The SCCG are of a mind to take this on, subject to due diligence.

What this means, effectively, is that Sutton will have more autonomy in the way our Primary Care structure is decided, for the benefit of our Borough, thus fully taking into account local needs. As patients, we should only see improvements coming about as a result. For more information, go to www.suttonccg.nhs.uk

Epsom & St Helier Trust are also 'in the news'. A paper was recently issued, which clearly and bluntly sets out the very real problem relating to their Estates - the buildings and super-structures. Whilst monies are being currently being spent on refurbishment, this is a short-term fix.

Read more at www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk/estates.

EStH have also, with the help of patient groups, revamped their website, to make it easier and more intuitive. In addition, they have been putting in place much clearer signage and maps, to ensure patients can get to their appointments in the hospital more easily. Appointment letters will also become simpler, in advising as to where you need to go. Check this out at www.epsom-sthelier.nhs.uk/plan-your-journey.

In addition, in November, the Care Quality Commission will be inspecting the Trust, across its two sites.

Have your say, as a patient at www.healthwatchsutton.org.uk/news/cqcs-inspection

Very shortly, the Sutton Integrated Care Record will be 'rolled out'. This means that your GP medical records will be available to the A & E staff. A & E is now more commonly referred to as the Emergency Department. If you have an accident, and need their care, they will be able to see immediately your medical history, and thus offer the most appropriate treatment without delay. Only a healthcare professional can access your records; surely a big step forward.

In time, and with consent, Social care records as appropriate can also be accessed by a healthcare professional in the same situation. Thus making the treatment you receive the most apt for your needs.

For more information on this, go to www.suttonccg.nhs.uk/aboutus/carerecord.

As you will be aware from previous Newsletters, the OCH PPG supports the Borough-wide Patient Reference Group, to which all Sutton PPGs can nominate two members to attend. The PRG is in place to provide the SCCG with patient-focused input into the provision of services in Sutton - even more important now, with the news as outlined above. The PRG recently ran a workshop, covering ideas for the SCCG to consider, for the year 2016 / 2017.

Finally, you may be interested to learn that the Royal Marsden has had its contract to supply Community Health Services to the Borough renewed, after a very detailed and rigorous re-tendering process.