

FRIARSGATE FOCUS

Winter 2018

Don't forget its Flu vaccination season!

It's not too late to book your flu vaccinations. If you have been contacted by the practice but, have not yet booked an appointment please get in touch with the practice to arrange an appointment time.



Comings and goings

Dr Vicki Ayres has now joined the practice and has taken over the patient list of Dr Eleanor Curry. Dr Ayres is a wonderful addition to the Friarsgate Team and we are sure her patients will be very pleased with their new GP.

The Indika Gunaratne sadly left the practice at the end of January 2018. The practice is very sorry to see her go. Her patients will be shared out amongst the remaining Friarsgate GPs.

The Practice is also very sad to announce that our Practice Nurse Jenny Adams has now retired: she will be greatly missed by both her colleagues and patients. Bethany Lacey will be joining the Nursing Team in February 2018.

The new Friarsgate Duty Model

Patients have found that with the introduction of our two Advanced Nurse Practitioners to our daily duty team the pressure on appointments has diminished somewhat. The Nurse Practitioners are able to call back the bulk of patients who require urgent on the day care. Thus alleviating the pressure on GP appointments.

Measles

Public Health England has confirmed outbreaks of Measles in the South of England and it is important to ensure that Parents and Carers are aware of the need to vaccinate children. Parents should take up the offer of the MMR vaccination for their children at 1 year of age and as a pre-school booster at 3yrs and 4months. If you are unsure of your child's vaccination status please contact the surgery for information.

We would also encourage people to ensure they are up to date with their MMR vaccine



before travelling to countries with ongoing measles outbreaks.

The UK recently achieved WHO measles elimination status and so the overall risk of measles to the UK population is low.

The Winchester Primary Care Access HUB

This is a Clinical Commissioning Group initiative being delivered by Mid Hampshire Healthcare and will operate from the Badger Farm Surgery. This service is completely independent from the Friarsgate Practice and is simply renting space at Badger Farm.

Patients will be able to book appointments at the HUB and obtain information about their appointments 2 weeks in advance **via their own GP practice.**

The HUB will be operational from 5-8 pm Monday to Friday, 8am-4pm on Saturdays and 8am-12 noon on Sundays.

For further information please visit Mid Hampshire Healthcare's website at:

www.midhampshirehealthcare.co



Friarsgate is pleased to announce that Weight Watchers will be holding a meeting at main Friarsgate Weeke every Monday evening at 6:30pm and Thursday lunchtime at 12:30 for a weigh and go.

The service is available for all patients. The inaugural meeting on Monday 22nd January was attended by well over 50 patients with a BMI of 30 or over who had been invited by the practice to participate in a free 12 week weight loss group. To find out more visit.

www.weightwatchers.com/uk/hampshire.

Joining the Patient Participation Group

Friarsgate has an active PPG. Through membership of the PPG the Practice would like to find out your ideas on how you feel our service could be improved and also those areas that are working well and should be continued. The PPG is led by a small group of patient volunteers that form the Steering Group. Meetings take place at the Surgery every couple of months.

They would welcome your involvement and would especially like to welcome younger patients who would provide a wider focus for our discussions and for the services that we support.

To become a member and receive our mailings – just contact us via the email below:

whccg.FriarsgatePractice-PatientParticipation@nhs.net

Patient Information Evenings

The Friarsgate Patient Participation Group in conjunction with Mid Hampshire Health held a patient information evening on the topic of ‘Stroke’ on Tuesday 12th December. This evening had a mix of medical experts and local organisations giving help and advice on living well after a stroke. The evening was a great success and received wonderful feedback. The practice hopes to arrange further similar evenings in future on a range of topics. We will contact individual patients if the topic would be beneficial to them.

The Friarsgate Research Team

The Practice has a dedicated research team engaging in various studies on specific conditions such as diarrhoea and psoriasis. Doctors may contact patients with the relevant conditions inviting them to take part in the study of patients may be

recruited during an appointment with their GP.

A leaflet has been produced which is available from the Surgery. Current studies are also being publicised on the practice Facebook page.

Missed Appointments

Despite every effort made by the Practice via reminders to Patients there are still a considerable number of missed appointments. If for any reason you are unable to attend please contact the practice to let them know. There is an option on the telephone answering system to do this.

The Practice has produced a new leaflet setting out an informal Doctor-Patient contract which will be included in new patient registration documents.

What would you like next?

If there are any other topics you would like us to cover in this newsletter please let us know, Just tell reception when you next visit.

PPG February 2018