

Bedminster Family Practice
Patient Participation Group Meeting
26th September 2024

Attendees

Pauline Glynn (PG)

Paula Casling (PC)

Lorna Allsop (LA)

Denise Draper (DD)

Apologies

Cynthia Palmer (CP)

Sue Marshall (SM)

Fran De'Ath (F De'A)

1 Approval of Minutes of the meeting of 2nd May

These were approved

2 Report from PPG member attending PPG Forum

Unfortunately, PC had been unable to attend the meeting & PG & DD had not been able to do so either.

3 Practice Update

Partner Ali Tarighi (AT) attended to give an update on his specific area of practice. He is responsible for running the Pharmacy Department which includes queries with medications, management of blood pressure & heart failure. He discussed the uptake of vaccinations against Covid, Flu, RVS, Pneumonia & Shingles (where there is a poor uptake although the reasons for this are not clear).

RSV is a respiratory disease which particularly affects the immune suppressed, pregnant women, the young and the elderly. Bookings are being taken for the RSV vaccination and those eligible should be encouraged to make an appointment rather than wait to be contacted by the practice,

PG asked whether the RSV vaccination could be given at the same time as either Flu or Covid. There is no firm guidance, so the Practice has recommended waiting a week between jabs.

AT clarified for LA that the RSV differs from pneumonia in that it treats bacteria. There is a different vaccination for pneumonia.

Eligible patients are being contacted by text to book an appointment. It was noted that the text should specifically say what the abbreviation RSV stands for

AT commented that patients can contract Shingles more than once and recommended that even where patients had had Shingles, they should still have the jab as it provides further protection.

Patients were being contacted to come forward for the annual flu jab. Patients of 65 and over were being offered the vaccination first together with other priority groups these would be followed by those under 65. He commented that it is a different strain of vaccination for those aged 65 and over.

DD reported on other practice news:

- One Secretary had left and has been replaced by a full time member of staff
- 3 new Navigators had been recruited
- 3 new General Practice Assistants had been appointed. This is a new role and sits between an Administrator and Health Care post. They are supported by a Nurse, are trained Phlebotomists and have specific areas of specialisation – wound care, child immunisations. They will be working closely with the vaccination team to improve the take up of child immunisation where uptake had been poor, although figures had improved.

Further roles under consideration for recruitment included a Mental Health Nurse, 3 GPA's, a Physician Assistant a Nurse Assistant, a Social Prescriber and a Mental Health and Wellbeing Coach. The Practice needs to consider how to use the funds available in order to best provide a real breadth of experience.

Dr Nearney now runs an innovative Paediatric Clinic (for children up to age 16) with Dr Hastings of the BRI. The Practice is looking for a Parent Champion for the Clinic who has time to actively promote the clinic. The benefit is that children can be seen in Primary Care rather than hospital, for more minor ailments, though for more serious conditions they will still be referred to hospital.

The clinic has been so successful that the waiting list for referrals of all 8 SWIFT clinics has been reduced from a year to NIL.

Practice Statistics:

DNA's were still high and the Practice is working to reduce the number. Patients are being contacted by text, and after a specific number of missed appointments will then receive a letter.

PC asked if it was possible to switch off the appointment tiles in the KLINIK system only for those areas where appointments are full, rather than the entire system.

4 AOB

DD reported there had been a serious violent incident today involving a person who was not a patient of the Practice, and the Police had to be called. The person was ultimately removed from the building. The Practice is now considering what security measures it can take to protect staff and patients.

5 Date and time of next Meeting

9 January 2025 @ 16:30