



## KIRKBURTON HEALTH CENTRE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG) NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2020

Our Newsletter can be viewed on our website [www.kirkburtonhealthcentre.nhs.uk](http://www.kirkburtonhealthcentre.nhs.uk) , or by email upon request.

### WELCOME

**A sincere thank you to all our patients for your support and cooperation during the challenging COVID-19 pandemic. We ask for your continued support as we move forwards and begin to reintroduce our services.**

We have now resumed some of our Long Term Condition reviews, NHS Health Checks and Minor Surgery. We will follow NHS guidance when resuming additional services. As we resume face-to-face consultations, we will continue to offer online and telephone consultations to patients who prefer them. We do appreciate that online and telephone consultations are not suitable for all patients or conditions. Face-to-face appointments are available to all our patients, however patients may be asked to discuss their condition over the phone or online first, to assess what is most appropriate for them.

**If you are asked to attend the Practice, please: wear a face covering; use the intercom on arrival; sanitise your hands; have your temperature checked.**

The waiting area has limited seating, in order to maintain social distancing for the safety of all our patients and staff.



### STAFF UPDATE

We welcome salaried GP Dr Saskia Highcock to our team. Dr Highcock will be with us until January. Our Healthcare Assistant, Dawn, has left the Practice, and we extend our very best wishes for the future.

### PRIMARY CARE NETWORK UPDATE

The MAST Primary Care Network has welcomed the appointment of a Physiotherapist, who will work across our practices (Shepley, Skelmanthorpe, Dearne Valley, Lepton and Kirkheaton.) During the COVID-19 pandemic, initial assessments will be by telephone.

## PLEASE HAVE YOUR FLU VACCINATION WITH US



This year, because of COVID-19, we have had to change the way we run our flu clinics. We have taken extra measures to ensure the safety of our patients and staff, while at the same time dealing with increased numbers. We have ordered vaccine for all our eligible patients.

### Who is eligible?

- Adults 65 and over
- People with certain medical conditions
- Pregnant women
- Shielded patients and their households
- Later in the year, the flu vaccine may be given to people in the 50-64 age group, provided we have sufficient vaccine

We are running our clinics in priority order, vaccinating our shielded patients, over 65s and high risk patients first. Our first clinics for shielded patients were held on 10 and 11 September, in our Gazebo. Many patients told us that they were reassured with the extra measures we had in place to ensure their safety.

**Appointments can be booked online, or by telephone.**

### When attending your appointment:

- Attend alone, unless you need a carer
- Attend as close to your appointment time as possible
- Wear short or loose fitting sleeves
- Wear a face covering

**For more information about the flu vaccination, please visit:**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/>



## RESEARCH READY

**Thank you** to our patients who registered with University of Oxford, to take part in important national research. The PRINCIPLE Trial aims to find medicines which can help people with COVID-19 symptoms get better quickly and stop them going to hospital.

## PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

Carole Hepworth has decided to step down as Chair of the Patient Participation Group (PPG). Carole will continue to support the Group as Vice Chair. Carol Hirst has been nominated as Chair.

Practice Manager Julie Lambe said: "Carole joined the PPG when it was newly formed in 2012. She has made an outstanding contribution to developments at the practice and we are pleased that she will continue to support the group as Vice Chair.

"We are delighted that Carol Hirst has accepted the role of Chair. Carol joined the PPG in 2012 and was elected Vice Chair in April 2019. Her skills and experience in Public Relations are an asset to the PPG."

**The PPG is a group of volunteers who works with the practice to represent the views of patients on the services and facilities provided. Membership is open to every patient on our practice list.**

**For more information about the PPG, please visit the Patient Group page of our website or contact reception to arrange to collect an introductory pack.**



24 hour  
**Mental Health Helpline**  
0800 183 0558

Confidential helpline offering support, advice, information and guidance. Available to anyone registered with a GP in Kirklees.

Service provided by:  
**NCHA**  
Care and Support

The advertisement features a silhouette of a human head in profile, facing left, with various gears and a lightbulb inside, symbolizing mental health and cognitive processes. The background is a light blue with faint circular patterns.

**A confidential 24 hour Mental Health Helpline, offering support, advice, information and guidance, is available to anyone registered with a GP in Kirklees.**



**0800 183 0558.**