

STOKESLEY SURGERY NEWSLETTER

April 2024

Welcome to Our First
Newsletter!

We are aiming to produce regular newsletters to publish on our website and Social Media. The intention is to get more information to patients about what is going on in Practice.

Paper copies will be made available at reception.

Covid Spring Boosters

We will be offering the Spring boosters here at the Health Centre from late April / Early May. Clinic dates are to be confirmed but will be held on Saturdays. If you are housebound you will get a home visit.

Eligible patients are:

- Those over 75 years of age
- Immunosuppressed patients (over 6 months of age)

We will be sending out text messages with a link to book a vaccination appointment as soon as we get a delivery date. We will call any patients that do not have a mobile number so please wait for us to contact you. We will invite all eligible patients.

A MESSAGE FROM DR FAYE PARKER

Our Senior partner Dr Parker has written the following message about continuity of Care:

Dear Patients,

Whilst we prefer to offer you continuity of care by offering appointments with the same doctor or clinician when possible, with rising workloads and pressure this is becoming increasingly difficult. We are not able to offer one-on-one care between a patient and one clinician. We have to work as a team. Your clinical notes on our system enable any of our team of clinicians to care for you effectively. Once you get to know a few of our clinicians, this should make continuity easier to achieve.

Many Thanks
Dr Parker

Patient Participation Group

We held our latest Patient group meeting in March and this was a very productive meeting.

Our patient group are helping us to look at appointment access, our telephone system and our website. We are currently working on improvements to these areas and would like to thank our Patient Group for their input and help with this! Thank you.

If you would like to join our Patient Group please see our website or ask at reception. We always welcome new members.

We Are proud to be a Veteran friendly accredited Practice

Stokesley Surgery is now Armed Forces veteran friendly accredited. This means that, as part of the health commitments of the Armed Forces covenant, we have a dedicated clinician with knowledge of military related health conditions and veteran specific health services. This is important in helping ex forces to get the best treatment.

If you are ex forces and this has not already been coded on your record please let one of our receptionists know and we will add this for you.

Our Social Prescriber Sarah has been putting together lots of useful information and a directory of services for veterans – some of this information can now be found on our website.

WE ARE TAKING ON NEW PATIENTS

The Surgery list is always open and we take on new patients at the practice each day. Registering at the practice can be done by using online forms on our website or filling out paper forms in practice.

If you are new to the area and have not yet registered yourself or your family with the practice then please remember to do so. Once registered you will be able to access appointments and we will have access to your past medical record – this will make it easier for us to help you. Don't leave it until you need an appointment to register.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

The surgery takes part in various research projects – you will always be asked for consent to participate in any research.

Currently we have been inviting patients to take part in:

- Parkinsons smell test - Smell loss may be one of the most important signs of risk for developing brain disease. This study, run by The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, is exploring this link by providing study participants with a simple scratch-and-sniff test that they can do from home.
- Serology sampling – we may ask you if we can take an extra blood sample when taking bloods – these are sent to Oxford University to help with ongoing surveillance of COVID immunity levels and vaccine effectiveness.
- Virology Sampling – Patients with flu like symptoms will be offered a swab test to monitor spread of respiratory viruses such as flu, Covid and RSV. This is also offered by Oxford University.

GP REGISTRARS

The practice continue to train future GPs.

We have recently been joined by Tunde (Dr Ogunsanwo).

He joins Dr Akinbami (Rasheed) and Dr Ageikinas (Ellie).

Dr Forster is also still with us until Summer.

PRACTICE TEAM

Over the last two years our team has grown, with the introduction of additional roles. You may be offered appointments with other health professionals and not just Doctors or Nurses.

We now have;

- **3 Clinical pharmacists**

Jai, Nicky and Frances look after medication requests, reviews and also review certain health conditions

- **Social Prescriber**

Sarah is our social prescriber – patients can self-refer to Sarah or a referral may come from our care navigators or one of the clinical team. Sarah connects people with local community activities and services that can help improve their health and wellbeing. A vital part of her role is building relationships with the people that she is helping by finding out what its important to them and what motivates them.

- **First Contact Physiotherapist**

Robyn is our physio. She can see patients with any musculoskeletal problems, she can give joint injections and refer for X-rays or to secondary care.

- **Mental Health Practitioner**

Jane can see patients with any mental health issues, anxiety etc. She can signpost patients to other services and make referrals

Our wider team includes our two Nurse Practitioners; Jenny and Jess and our Physician Associate Laura.

We would like to welcome our new Practice Nurse Emma to the team. Emma has experience in both respiratory (Asthma and COPD) reviews and Diabetes. Annette and Emma from our admin team are now also working part time within the nursing team to provide some extra Healthcare assistant and Phlebotomy appointments for our patients.

NEW Telephone system coming in May/June

We will be having a further upgrade to our phone system this Summer. This will include the addition of call queuing and call back functionality. We hope that in the long term this will improve patient experience when calling the surgery to book an appointment. We do remind patients to only call between 8.00am and 8.30am for same day appointments – as this is when our lines are busiest. Appointments can be booked via the NHS app or via Systmone online access and we also have our online consultations (e consultations) that can be accessed via our website.