

ST AGNES SURGERY NEWS LETTER July 2014



Surgery News

Staffing

Dr Rob Hutchinson's time with us is coming to an end and we will be welcoming back Dr Will Duffin, who will be with us for a year.

Dr Jane Naylor is on sabbatical and will be off for eight weeks. Her absence is being covered by Dr Pallav Verma.

Dr Rob White has joined the Board of NHS Kernow and this means he is committed to attend various meetings. He will not be here on at least two days a week and his absence is being covered by Dr Eleanor Thorpe and Dr Bridgitte Wesson.

Alison Julian has joined our phlebotomy team and will be working in conjunction with Bernice Putt.

Immunisations



SHINGLES CHANGES

The Government have instigated a shingles vaccination programme for patients aged 70 and 79. The shingles vaccine programme has now been up and running for nearly a year and from September. **Please note eligibility for the first group of patients will change from 1.9.2014.**

Eligible Patients up until 31.8.2014

Patients with a date of birth between 2.9.1942 and 1.9.1943*

Patients with a date of birth between 2.9.1932 and 2.9.1933*

*From 1.9.2014 these patients will no longer be eligible for the shingles vaccination.

Eligible Patient from 2.9.2014

Patients with a date of birth between 2.9.1943 and 1.9.1944

Patients with a date of birth between 2.9.1933 and 1.9.1935

HEALTH CHECKS

We offer health checks with Bernice Putt for any patient aged between 40 and 74 who is not already on our chronic disease register. It is part of the Government drive to identify patients who are at risk of developing heart disease, stroke, diabetes and kidney disease. Please ask at reception for an NHS health check if you fulfil the above criteria.

NHS111

NHS 111 has also taken over from NHS Direct and that number should be used to obtain medical advice non-urgent matters. The out of hours service has now also changed from Serco to NHS111. It is still accessible by simply dialling the surgery phone number during evenings and week-ends if you need urgent medical attention that cannot wait until the surgery is open.

SOCIAL

Lizzie Henderson is arranging a coffee morning to be held at the Church Hall from 10.00 to 12.00 on Saturday August 16th. There will be cake and book stalls.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our patients and staff for the generous book donations and over £800 has been raised so far for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

APPOINTMENTS

On-line appointments are now up and running. Patients will have the opportunity to book an appointment eight weeks in advance. This is a change from the previous re-bookable appointment time which was four weeks. Hopefully it may make it easier to book with the doctor of choice. There are two appointments made available per doctor per day.

We cannot stress often enough that our patients are able to book routine appointments up to **eight** weeks in advance. We also **offer early morning appointment at 7.30 am on Wednesdays and Fridays**. These appointments are specifically offered to enable working patients to see the doctor without having to take time off work.



Opening Times

Not all patients are aware of our early morning clinics:

Morning Clinics

Monday to Friday 8.30 am - 11.00 am

Afternoon Clinics

Monday to Friday 3.30 pm - 5.20 pm

On some days of the week appointments are available from 2.00 pm-4.00 pm

Extended Opening Hours:

St. Agnes Surgery offers extra appointments for people who are unable to attend the surgery during ordinary opening hours

These appointments can be pre-booked up to 4 weeks in advance of the day required.

Wednesdays 7.30 am - 8.00 am

Fridays 7.30 am - 8.00 am

Services

St Agnes Surgery offers a wide range of services to our patients:

Asthma Reviews
Diabetic Reviews
Learning Disability Reviews
Child Health checks
COPD
Dementia
Immunisations
Health Checks
Travel Clinic
Maternity Care
Contraceptive Care including coil fitting and Implanon
Smears
Minor surgery
Minor injury
Ear microscopy (see explanation below)
Nasendoscopy (see explanation below)

The use of an ear microscope gives the best visualization of the ear canal and the ear drum. Apart from examining the ear canal and the ear drum, the microscope can also help removing any ear wax, foreign body or infective material like pus.

A nasendoscopy is the examination of the nose and upper airways by the use of a small flexible tube (endoscope) that allows a doctor to examine the lining of these areas. The examination examines the nose (nasal cavity), the back of the nasal cavity, the back of the mouth and tongue and upper part of the voice box.



Minor Injuries

It is worth while emphasizing the minor injury service we offer. We will deal with any minor injuries we are able to, which saves a trip to the Minor Injuries Unit. Obviously there will be times when time constraints or available clinical personnel will not permit this, but we will deal with a wide range of injuries:

Cuts, lacerations, abrasions
Simple local infections
Cellulitis
Animal and human bites
Insect bites and stings
Removal of foreign bodies
Soft tissue injuries
Minor Head Injuries
Burns
Bruises due to trauma
Eye injuries

Please do not go to the Accident and Emergency Department for this type of injury. If the practice cannot deal with it there are dedicated Minor Injury Units at various locations, the nearest being:

Camborne and Redruth Community Hospital (01209 881650) - 8am to 10pm every day

Falmouth Hospital (01326 434739) - 8am to 8pm every day

Newquay Hospital (01637 893623) - 8am to 10pm every day and open 24-hours on Fridays and Saturdays during July and August

Out of Hours please ring NHS111 (on the surgery number) in the first instance.