

**Birchwood Medical Practice  
Patient Participation Group Meeting  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 – 6pm**

Attendees: (KR) – Practice Manager  
(ZW) – Deputy Practice Manager  
(SB) – PPG Member  
(RA) – PPG Member  
(LW) – PPG Member  
(PM) – PPG Member  
(AG) – PPG Member  
(KA) – PPG Member  
(CB) – PPG Member

## **1 Welcome**

Everyone introduced themselves to the meeting. Everyone welcomed our new member, PM to the group.

## **2 Flu Vaccination Update**

We are still chasing patients who have not yet had the vaccine. If PPG members are aware of anyone who wants this, please ask them to contact the surgery.

There is no update on a covid spring booster but we will keep members updated in due course.

SB asked for an update on shingles. ZW advised that the criteria was very confusing. The criteria is as follows:

- Anyone aged 70 – 80 who has not already had it
- Anyone turning 65 between September 2023 and September 2024

## **3 New Salaried GP**

KR advised that Dr Islam has recently started with us a salaried GP working 4 sessions per week on a Wednesday and Thursday. Dr Islam has done some locum work for us before and did complete her GP training with us here.

## **4 Preparing for CQC Inspection – last one 2016**

KR advised that we are all expecting an inspection at some point this year.

ZW & KR have been working with a lady from an outside consultancy firm to undertake a large amount of work for the GP Improvement Plan. This is a toolkit that has been developed to support practices and primary care networks to: better align capacity with demand. improve the working environment. Lots of work has taken place to look at frequent attenders but also those that have not attended for a long time. Work has been done on care navigation to get the best course of action for patients.

## **5 NHS App Drop-In Session**

KR asked members for their opinion on whether they felt a drop-in session for the NHS App would be beneficial. Members of the admin team will do some extra training and then offer support to patients on how to access the app and navigate their way around it. All agreed that this would be beneficial.

Post meeting note: This has been arranged for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 5.00pm – 7.00pm. Texts will be going out to patients.

## **6 APEX – Producing pack to share information with patients.**

KR shared an information pack that has been developed by APEX – the name for the Primary Care Network that Birchwood belongs too. All thought that this was very useful and has lots of relevant information.

Information around health promotion was also included.

## **7 Members Contribution**

PM mentioned about a singing group that he used to be part of, which helped patients with breathing problems. He asked if there were any groups around here that were similar but no one was aware of any. PM is going to do some research and maybe look to set something up.

## **8 Any other Business**

KR advised of a respiratory hub clinic that is being run on a Thursday from Birchwood. This is being run as part of the PCN. A respiratory Nurse Specialist runs the clinic and this is going well.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that meetings would be held on a quarterly basis. Next meeting – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 at 6pm.

AG passed on apologies as she will not be able to attend the next meeting.