

Pencester Surgery  
Patient Participation Group Meeting  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Minutes

Those present: Dr Tippu

Julie Hooper – Practice Manager

Mike West - Chairman

Ronald Spencer, Jean Bryant, John Richards, Angela Condon, Lesley Gordon, Geraldine Butchers.

1. Apologies for absence. George Higgins, Georgette Rapley.
2. Welcome Dr Tippu and John Richards.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February were distributed and accepted.
4. Matters arising from the previous minutes. It was discussed and accepted that it is not possible at the present time for the surgery to fund a new PA system. However, this item will be kept in mind if there are any changes to the finances in the future.
5. NHS database and it's implications. This subject was discussed again and will remain on the agenda for future meetings until a final decision has been made. Dr Tippu agreed that when the time comes a decision will be made at practice level based on patient opinion.
6. Supplements. The Chairman expressed his concern that many supplements that are widely available without prescription may interact or be harmful when used with certain prescribed medications. Dr Tippu was in agreement that there are certain alternative remedies that should not be taken with prescribed medication. He also assured the members of the PPG that it was good practice for all GPs to ask patients if they were taking any supplements but also stated that ultimately it remained the patient's responsibility to provide the doctor with this information. It was decided that a notice should be put up in the waiting area asking patients to inform their GP about any supplements or alternative therapies they are taking.
7. Pilgrims Hospice [Canterbury]. Dr Tippu did not have any further information regarding the closure of the Pilgrims Hospice at Canterbury. Lesley Gordon kindly offered to find out more regarding this and feed back to us at our next meeting.
8. Buckland Hospital. The opening of our new hospital is apparently on target for early 2015. John Richards will try to obtain more information on this for discussion at the next meeting.

9. AOB.

- Ronald Spencer expressed his concern that there is a 1 year wait for a podiatry appointment at Dover Health Centre. Julie Hooper will report this back to the CCG.
- In her absence Georgette Rapley had asked the Chairman to raise the subject of children receiving repeat prescriptions over the telephone. Julie Hooper explained to the PPG that, while the surgery states that we do not take repeat prescriptions over the telephone, the reception staff are well trained to deal with each situation as it arises on its own merit. If a child has already been prescribed a certain medication and there is a very good reason why Mum can't come down to the surgery then obviously whoever deals with this would use common sense so that the child does not go without medication.
- Following on from our last meeting, Mike West was asked if he could enquire with other surgeries as to the format/purpose of their Patient Participation Groups. A good selection of surgeries were looked at and a more in depth discussion regarding this will take place at the next meeting.
- Dr Tippu will discuss with the other GPs at the next Practice Meeting what the doctors would like to be achieved from the formation of the PPG.
- Ronald Spencer expressed his concern regarding the faintness of the white lines in the car park. Julie Hooper will arrange for this to be redone.

Next meeting : Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August at 4.00pm