

Gosford Hill Medical Centre



News Letter



Winter 2008/9, Issue 3

WELCOME

Welcome to the Gosford Hill Medical Centre news letter. The practice will be undergoing a number of changes in the near future and we hope to keep you up to date with these improvements and hear any feed back from you with regards to improvements and anything mentioned in this newsletter.

FLU VACCINATIONS

We have just completed our round of flu vaccinations for this year. We were very glad to be able to add to our number of immunisers by training our 2 Healthcare Assistants, Tracey & Liz who performed admirably. We gave over 1,500 vaccinations, a new record. Achieving well over the 70% of over 65's target requested by the Department of Health. We will be starting our next flu vaccination campaign in October 2009.

PNEUMOVAX

Just a little reminder to all those of you who are 65 years or older and have not had your pneumonia vaccination, please give us a ring and our receptionists will be happy to take your details and arrange an appointment for you.



CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES

We now offer the following contraceptive services:-
Emergency contraception.
Oral contraceptives
Long Acting Reversible Contraception (Coil fitting and removal, Depot injections & Implanon implants)

CHLAMYDIA TESTING

The practice now offers Chlamydia testing to male and female patients under the age of 25.

DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS TESTING

We are now able to offer on site preliminary testing for DVT after a consultation with a GP.

WHATS NEW?

Our practice nurse, Sue Ashdown will be starting a bi-monthly healthy weight clinic in February. If you need help with your diet please make an appointment.

We now offer a limited service on Saturday mornings. This is in addition to the normal out-of- hours service. If you need to be seen as an emergency you will still be required to contact the out-of-hours-service. The telephones are switched to out-of-hours. We offer only pre-bookable appointments for

those patients who encounter difficulty getting to the practice during the week.

NEW STAFF

We would like to welcome several new people to our team; -

Dr Mary McCullins	GP Retainer
Dr Shahram Bajwa	Registrar
Sue Ashdown	Practice Nurse
Claire St John	Health Visitor
Alison Butt	Health Visitor
Vicky Jackson	HV Staff Nurse

We would also like say a final farewell to Caroline Abbott Health Visitor who has been on a long secondment with the Primary Care Trust and who has been moved to the Health Visiting team in Witney.

SURGERY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

For appointments and general Enquiries please call **374242**.

For prescriptions and test results please call **374242 between 2pm and 6pm**.

For the district nurses please call **842618**.

For the health visitor please call **373502**.

Please leave a message on the Health Visitor's and District Nurse's phone if there is no answer and they will get back to you between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

During the month of December **102** patients failed to attend for their booked appointments.

Whilst there may be perfectly valid reasons why they did not attend, the Practice is working hard to treat patients and deliver a high quality, patient-focussed service. The number

of patients who do not attend their appointment results in wasted time and valuable resources.

Please telephone the surgery if you are unable to keep your appointment as someone else could use it – 374242.

REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS

If you rely on regular medication, please make sure that you have an adequate supply and that you order your repeat prescription at least 4 days before you will run out. This enables us to get your prescription from the doctor and if you would like it sent down to the chemist it should be ready in time for you to collect there.



PLANNED PREMISES EXTENSION

We are hoping to receive planning permission for a ground floor extension to our premises. This will provide much needed space to enable us to offer more services within the community. We plan to have 2 extra consulting rooms plus plenty of storage space.

WE WANT YOUR VIEWS

If you have any comments or views to make about this news letter or anything else relating to the practice, please feel free to write them down and pop them in the red box on the wall near reception marked '**suggestion**'.