

Patient Participation Group

Zoom Meeting - 9th March 2021

Those Present :- Christine Powell, Rosemary Hillyard, Anne Banks, Angela Townsend, Jodie Clements, Simon Laurie, Diane Westray, Anne Smart, Paul Day, Elizabeth Carless, Scott Ridley and Dr Shaheen Jinah.

Apologies Maria Power and Kevin Wadham.

The minutes from the previous meeting were visited and agreed.

Vaccine Programme.

We were given an update on the Covid 19 Vaccination programme.

AstraZeneca is the main vaccine being given at the moment.

Pfizer BioNTech vaccine was being reserved for second vaccinations.

All information about the vaccinations is detailed on the Practice website and on the Facebook page.

Mixing vaccines is not recommended at the moment, as they do not know how it will work.

The AstraZeneca vaccine is the vaccine of choice, at the moment, as it is easy to give and a lot cheaper. AstraZeneca is providing the vaccine at cost of production without profit unlike the other vaccines.

The AstraZeneca vaccination clinics at Chequers' Surgery went very well and patients were pleased to receive their vaccine there.

A third of our patients, 4800, have now been vaccinated and we are now onto group 8, those 55-59 years and younger patients, who are at risk.

Hughenden Pharmacy has applied to give the vaccine at Hughenden Surgery and will do so in the future.

A few people have reported bad side effects from the vaccine and some having suffered from Covid have reported long Covid symptoms

Mental Health.

There seems to be a far more worrying situation about people's mental health after the last lock-down, as more people are coming forward with difficulties.

There appears to be more patients coming forward with physical conditions/ issues, which is brought about by lack of coping mechanisms.

Mental transition education - to reflect and prepare people to understand that the present situation will end and direct people to new beginnings.

Awareness that there will be difficulties getting back to a normal lifestyle and a reluctance to go out for some.

We were informed that there was a significant increase in Antenatal and Postnatal depression due to lack of midwifery, family support due to Covid restrictions and Fathers not allowed to be present during the birth.

The normal 20 minute appointment for Mum and baby was turning into hourly support sessions.

Recommended to direct patients to websites such as Healthy Minds or towards our PCN Social Prescriber/Link worker.

Cruse helps and supports those who have lost a relative.

Anne Smart reports that the local Street Associations are on hand to offer support and a friendly/neighbourly hand.

The Bucks County Council Leap boxes are being delivered by local volunteers.

Delayed Diagnosis

There is still concern over patients not coming forward with symptoms and there being a delay in treating various cancers.

The Practice is anxious to make it known that they are open for business, patients should come forward to eConsult, speak to a Doctor and if there is a clinical need be seen in the surgery.

Moving forward there is to be a gradual opening of doors for everyone.

On line bookings and text message communication encouraged.

Social Prescribers.

It was noted that three out of the four Social Prescribers/Link workers employed in October had resigned.

Next meeting to be decided at a later date.

Elizabeth Carless

Topics for discussion.

Complaints about the Practice telephone system. Losing Patients to other Practices because of the time it takes for the telephone to be answered.

A sorry situation - thought by many to be unacceptable and not fit for purpose.