



## **PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)**

### **Patient Participation Awareness Week**

**4-9 June 2018**

Working in partnership with the GPs and Practice Team, the Patient Participation Group ensure that patients perspective is at the heart of local provision so that services are of high quality and continuously improve. The PPG provides practical support to the surgery, fosters improved communication between the practice and patients and helps patients to take more responsibility for their health with healthy living events and talks. If you would like to join our PPG please leave your name and address in the PPG box in Reception.

### **Diabetic Talk**

A provisional date of 20<sup>th</sup> June has been set for the PPG's next Health talk, which will be on Diabetes. There will be a Nurse Specialist on hand to answer your questions and also possibly a Dietician. More details to follow. Check the surgery website and our notice board for more information.



### **FOODBANK**

Are you in a time of crisis? Maybe the Rye Foodbank can help. Every day people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy, to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income.

The Rye Food bank is open at the Rye Baptist Church Hall every Wednesday from 13:00-15:00. For more information call 07934 182906 or 07934 184256. Vouchers for the Foodbank are available from Health Visitors, Rye Primary School, Rye Academy, HARC (Hastings Advice & Representation Centre - at Tilling Green every Wednesday morning) and local Vicars and Ministers.

## **IS YOUR CHILD PROTECTED?**

During World Immunisation Awareness Week (24-30 April) the NHS will be reminding parents and carers of the importance of vaccinating their child against a host of serious diseases. The vaccination jabs which children receive in their early years – between birth and when they first go to school - are very important in helping them build protection against infections such as meningitis, diphtheria, polio, measles and mumps.

These diseases are in circulation and an infection can cause severe complications, particularly for children. But remember, it is not only the child who is protected, vaccination programmes protect the whole population by making it harder for the disease to spread to others.

It is particularly important that children are fully up-to-date with all their jabs before they start school which is when they come into contact with more potential sources of infection. The vast majority of parents do ensure that their child has been fully protected, but there are many children who are missing doses and therefore at risk.

More information is available on the NHS Choices Website, and if you are in any doubt that your child is missing important vaccinations please contact the surgery.

### **On-line services**

Patients registered with the surgery can now book appointments and request repeat prescriptions on line, at a time convenient to them, thanks to GP online services. This service enables people to book GP appointments and request repeat prescriptions via their computer, smartphone or tablet, at a time that suits them rather than calling or visiting the surgery. This service works alongside the traditional methods of accessing our services, it does not replace them. If you want to register for this service you will need to fill out a form at the surgery and produce proof of identity. Call in and ask us about this service.

## **Surgery News**

Whilst schools and businesses closed around us due to the “Beast from the East”, we remained open and staffed during the difficult weather conditions. If you did have your appointment time bought forward to an earlier time during this adverse weather, this was so that we could ensure that our staff living outside of Rye could travel home in daylight hours. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.



We said “Goodbye” to Lucille Gould at the end of January. Lucille has been part of the Reception Team for twelve years. She will still be helping us out from time to time, but wants more time to travel and look after her Grandchildren. We wish her well.

We are installing new screens in the waiting areas which will call patients to the rooms to see the clinicians and also display health promotion and practice information for you to look at while you are waiting for your appointment.

## **Prescription Charges**

From 1<sup>st</sup> April the cost of one item will increase to £8.80. Pre-payment certificates are available (3 months £29.10, 12 months £104). This will cover ANY prescriptions you are prescribed. Ask at Dispensary for more information.

## **Keep us updated**



Have we got your correct mobile number? We know people regularly change and update their mobile phones. Please don't forget to let us know of any changes.



East Sussex Community Information Service (escis) is a useful database of local and community information developed and managed by the Library and Information Services of East Sussex County Council. It is a free resource for everyone. As well as signposting you to information on health it also offers support and contact numbers for government and local services, family information, education, transport, sports and hobbies and local groups. For more information visit [www.escis.org.uk](http://www.escis.org.uk)

## **East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Care and Support Directory**

Do you want more information on the care and support services available in East Sussex? Call into the surgery to collect the latest Care Support Directory which offers information on helping you stay independent, equipment and adaptations available for the home, home care providers, dementia care, care homes and carers support.