

Aspull Surgery Patient participation Group Newsletter

November 2011

Welcome to the very first patient group newsletter
Written by: Mr Alan Blood- Patient steering group member.

“The government want patients to be more involved with health services, telling providers what they want and how good services are”.

The group had its first meeting on Tuesday 1st November. There are currently 6 members of the patient steering group. The practice manager; Suzanne Holland is trying to develop a patient participation group where every patient of the practice can be involved. To establish the group a small steering committee has been formed. The members of the committee are as follows and come from a variety of backgrounds:

Alan Blood- retired nurse

Chris Ready – local counsellor

Francis Leigh – (no information at the time of print)

Jeff Heyes – health & safety officer

Jenny Catterall – Bank administrator

Lynn Clemson – Retired smoking cessation officer

NEW TECHNOLOGY

Many of you will know the surgery has its own website, which is www.aspullsurgery.co.uk. The website will in future contain information about the surgery, its plans and services. Did you know that you could order your repeat prescription on line which will save you one trip to the surgery? You will still have to pick your prescription up or have it sent to the pharmacy at Aspull or New Springs.

Many of you will be familiar with the appointment check in screen, which saves the receptionists a good deal of time that can be spent on other tasks. Thank you for your co-operation with the system.

If you have any more ideas on how technology can be used in the surgery the steering group committee would be pleased to hear from you.

BLOOD TESTS

If the doctor recommends a blood test for you there are several places where you can have it taken. The nearest is Aspull Clinic but you have to ring 01942 773151 for an appointment.

Regular check-ups

The practice nurse and the health care assistant run regular clinics. Please enquire at the desk. You will have to make an appointment in the same way you make one to see the doctor.

Prescriptions

As well as ordering your repeat prescription on-line, local chemists will help obtain your medication. They will order, collect and in some cases deliver your repeat prescription. Local chemists will also help you safely dispose of any unwanted medication. They will also give you advice on many minor complaints.

Did you know?

- **The practice cares for 5500 patients**
- **The doctor sees 320 patients every week**
- **1300 flu jabs are expected to be given this year**
- **98 patients attended the open surgery last week**
- **15 patients failed to keep their appointment last week.**

Value for Money

Everything the practice does these days has to be value for money. One of the items coming up to be looked at is the open surgeries. A questionnaire is currently being organised to seek your views please complete one of the surveys when they become available. Your views are vital.

Referrals

Did you know that in many instances when your doctor wishes to refer you to hospital for further tests, advice or treatment; you have a choice of which hospital to go to.

Fire Safety Risk Assessment

A recent fire safety risk assessment at the surgery gave the practice a clean bill of health except most of the posters on the walls will need to be removed. The staff feel many of the posters can be a great help and benefit so we are open to ideas on how the information can be displayed or made available.

Suggestions and comments

If you have any suggestions or comments you would like to share with us you can make them via the surgery website or in writing and placing it in the prescription box.

Message from Suzanne Holland- Practice Manager

May I thank all the patients who have given up their time to meet and be a part of our patient participation group. Especially Mr Blood who has written the articles in this newsletter. If you are a patient at this practice and would like to become part of the group please inform a receptionist or visit our website and check out the patient participation pages.

Kind regards
Suzanne