

ARE YOU AWARE OF “PATIENT CHOICE”?

If you are being referred to hospital by your G.P., you have the right to choose which hospital you are referred to. If you have a preference, then specify this at the time your G.P. is referring you. If you do not state a preference then the G.P. will refer you to the hospital that has the earliest available date. Healthwatch Lincolnshire recently carried out a survey in our Practice and found that “most” patients knew about Patient Choice!

MY HEALTH LINCOLNSHIRE!

The Boston Clinical Commissioning Group, (Holbeach Medical Centre is a member) have produced an app which can give you useful information on health matters. Download the app at: www.myhealthlincolnshire

NEED SOME ADVICE?

Try contacting *LINCS2ADVICE* on 0844 257 0042, Mobile: 0300 303 8789 or www.lincs2advice.org.uk This is a FREE service available to the residents of Lincolnshire and provides advice on money, health, care, legal, family, home and work related issues.

WHAT IS THE PATIENTS’ PARTICIPATION GROUP?

We are a group of Volunteer Patients from the Holbeach Medical Centre who are undertaking to be a “critical friend” of the Holbeach Medical Centre. We would like to make Patients aware of changes that the Practice is making. Sometimes Patients who do not often visit the Medical Centre or who are unable to access the Internet, are unaware of improvements to services.

We aim to produce 4 newsletters a year, but because of the high cost of postage these Newsletters will be distributed by collection from the Holbeach Medical Centre; Boots the Chemist; Holbeach Pharmacy; The Library, or with your written consent, via email. (Consent forms available from the Medical Centre or from the website) .

The PPG is unable to respond to complaints; deal with Patient-specific issues; or have access to medical records. The Holbeach Medical Centre does have a Complaints Procedure. If you have a formal complaint, please contact the Reception Desk for a copy of the Complaints Procedure, or ask to speak to the Practice Manager.

PLEASE JOIN US: If you are interested in joining the PPG—See Medical Centre Reception for an Application Form. New members always welcome.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS: If you have ideas or suggestions of what you would like to see in future Newsletters, please let us know by writing to the PPG at the Medical Centre address.



HOLBEACH MEDICAL CENTRE

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Surgery & Enquiries : 01406 423288

www.holbeachmedicalcentre.co.uk

PATIENTS’ PARTICIPATION GROUP

NEWSLETTER—WINTER 2015

Welcome to the WINTER Edition of the Holbeach Medical Centre Newsletter produced jointly by the Holbeach Medical Centre and the Patients’ Participation Group.

RECENT CQC SURGERY INSPECTION RESULT = GREEN

Which means our Surgery Services are GOOD

CONGRATULATIONS and THANKS TO OUR DOCTORS and SURGERY STAFF, FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK IN LOOKING AFTER US SO WELL.

FUNDRAISING



FOR THE PATIENTS’ INFORMATION SCREEN



We currently have over £1080 with our fundraising efforts.

We need approximately **£3,000** to install the Information Screen. Thank you for your help so far, but **Please** help us to reach the target by buying a **CHRISTMAS QUIZ (Just £1.00)** from the Surgery, or by donating an item for the **Christmas Hamper Quiz Prize**. These can be left in Reception at the Surgery, as can Completed Quiz sheets.

QUIZ CLOSING DATE = Friday 11 December 2015

Winner will be informed by Friday 18th December 2015

NEWS & INFORMATION

◆ LINCOLNSHIRE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE

Alzheimer's Disease, Brain Injury, Cerebral Palsy Epilepsy, Ataxia, Multiple Sclerosis, Spinal Injuries can all be part of a "Neurological Conditions" group. The "Alliance" is a self-help Charity with an aim to bring together as many people with a connection to Neurological conditions, their carers and families to support and inform.

They are hoping to create a "drop-in" centre in the centre of the county (possibly Sleaford) which will provide support and access to information.

Leaflets on the Lincolnshire Neurological Alliance have been left at the Surgery, The Market House, Long Sutton, and both Holbeach and Gedney churches.

◆ ARE YOU A CARER?

If you are a registered Patient with our Surgery and a designated Carer of a relative or friend, then please notify the Surgery on Telephone 01406 423288 Option 4, to be registered as a Carer. You will then be advised what help is available to you, and offered a free health check.

DID YOU KNOW IT'S "CARERS RIGHTS DAY ON 20TH NOVEMBER?"

ALSO CHECK OUT WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU by logging on to www.carersUK.org.

◆ **A PARKINSONS' NURSE** Has now been appointed to the Boston Clinical Commissioning Group, who will also cover our area.

◆ HAVE YOU UNUSED MEDICATIONS?

Please RETURN TO THE SURGERY for safe disposal — DO NOT throw in the dustbin or flush down the toilet.

PRACTICE NEWS & REMINDERS

FLU VACCINATIONS

HAVE YOU HAD YOURS?

Available to those who are eligible and by appointment only

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE? Those who are eligible fall into the following groups:

- Over 65's;
- Sufferers of Chronic diseases—respiratory; heart; kidney; liver; or neurological;
- Diabetics;
- Pregnant Women;
- Home Carers; and those in Long Stay residential care

(If you are unsure about your eligibility for a Flu Vaccination, please contact the Medical Centre to clarify)

SHINGLES VACCINATION

This Vaccine is Date of Birth Specific. ONLY Patients whose birth dates fall between the following date are eligible:

⇒ 02 September 1943 to 01 September 1944

⇒ 02 September 1935 to 01 September 1936

⇒ 02 September 1934 to 01 September 1935

An appointment with the Nurse is necessary for this vaccination.

If you are still unsure, please contact the practice and speak to the Practice Nurse.

PNEUMOCOCCAL VACCINATION

If you are 65 or over you are eligible for this vaccination. **(This vaccination is now only needed once, unless requested by a hospital consultant).** If you are eligible, then please make an appointment with the Nurse.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS TEST

This questionnaire available in our surgery regarding our services is ongoing. Could you please complete and return, as again this information is required by NHS England. Thank you for your help.