

PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP

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.

CARE DATA PROGRAMME

We highlighted this in the PPG Newsletter of “SPRING 2014”.

Remember—every patient is automatically OPTED IN to this scheme, unless you let the Medical Centre know that you do not wish to share your medical data, and you OPT OUT. If you wish to OPT OUT, you will need to OPT OUT at every medical establishment you have records with, ie hospitals. The first extraction of information will take place in October 2014. More information can be found at: www.england.nhs.uk

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.

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 send them to: Mark Murfet at mark.ppg@btinternet.com. Alternatively—write to the PPG at the Medical Centre address.



HOLBEACH MEDICAL CENTRE

Park Road, Holbeach, Spalding, Lincs.,

PE12 7EE

Surgery & Enquiries : 01406 423288

www.holbeachmedicalcentre.co.uk

PATIENTS’ PARTICIPATION GROUP NEWSLETTER—WINTER 2014/2015

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



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Tickets NOW on sale in the Surgery—£1.00 a strip.

Please Pop in and get yours. Wonderful prizes

1st Prize: Christmas Hamper

2nd Prize: £25.00 Tesco Voucher

3rd prize: Christmas Cake

Plus numerous other prizes

Raffle to be drawn on Wednesday 17h December 2014 by Dr Bell

The PPG are fund raising to provide an Information Screen in the surgery to help further improve communications between Patients and the Medical Centre, and the proceeds from the Christmas Raffle will go towards this cause.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH HOLBEACH—ST NICHOLAS FAYRE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 6TH & 7TH DECEMBER 2014

**Holbeach Medical Centre PPG Stall with information leaflets
will be there on Sunday 7th December 2014**

GENERAL PRACTICE NEWS & INFORMATION

EBOLA

For your information:-

Could start within 21 days of returning from Guinea, Sierra Leone, or Liberia

Symptoms: headache; joint and muscle pain; sore throat; intense muscle weakness; diarrhoea; vomiting, a rash; stomach pain; impaired kidney and liver function.

Patients should stay at home and immediately telephone 111 and explain they have recently visited West Africa.

STROKE SYMPTOMS

The main stroke symptoms can be remembered with the word **FAST**:

Face—Arms—Speech—Time

FACE: the face may have dropped on one side, the person may not be able to smile or their mouth or eye may have drooped.

ARMS: the person with suspected stroke may not be able to lift one or both arms and keep them there because of arm weakness or numbness.

SPEECH: their speech may be slurred or garbled, or the person may not be able to talk at all despite appearing to be awake.

TIME: it is time to dial 999 **immediately** if you see **any** of these signs or symptoms.

PPG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The PPG Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 25th February 2015, at 6.30 pm. All Patients of the Holbeach Medical Centre are eligible to attend, but please notify the Medical Centre of your intention to attend at least a week in advance of the AGM. The venue will be dependant on numbers attending, and published in the Surgery prior to that date.

PRACTICE NEWS & REMINDERS

FLU VACCINATION

The **Flu Clinic** started on the **29th September 2014**. If you are eligible, but have not yet had yours, vaccine is still available. Do make an appointment **NOW**.

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 usually only needed once every 10 years). If you are eligible, then please make an appointment with the Nurse.

FRIENDS & FAMILY TEST (QUESTIONNAIRE)

If you have been asked by the Practice to complete this questionnaire, could you please return the completed form to the Practice as soon as possible. This data is important to the Practice and the information has to go to NHS England. Thank you.

ANNUAL PATIENT QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire regarding our services has now started, could you please complete and return, as again this information is required by NHS England. Thank you for your help.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH to the Long Sutton Free Masons Lodge who have made a donation towards our new Treatment Room Bed. We are very grateful.