

THE BROMLEY COMMON PRACTICE PARTICIPATION GROUP SPRING NEWSLETTER

What has been happening since our last newsletter?

Changes to prescribing “over the counter” medicines

This is a nationwide NHS initiative where GP's have been advised not to routinely prescribe medicines such as, paracetamol, Ibuprofen, Hay fever tablets to list a few that are for short term use. Therefore, you will now find that you are expected to purchase these yourself, even if you are on free prescriptions or pre-payment certificate unless the GP feels that there is a reason that they would be willing to prescribe the medicine to you.

These types of medications can usually be found relatively cheaply in local pharmacies and supermarkets. Click on the NHS England press release with more information below.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2018/03/nhs-england-frees-up-millions-of-pounds-which-could-be-used-for-frontline-services/>

This will help save money to put into much needed services.

Research: You may receive an invite from time to time from a GP to participate in research/trials. The GP's identify people who may fit the criteria and write to them with the information provided by the researchers. It is entirely voluntary.

GP Training Surgery: The surgery train GP's who are already qualified doctors that either want to become a GP or are seeing if it is the right direction for them in their career. We are fortunate to have more than one GP trainer in our practice to supervise them. Currently we welcome Dr Sheetal Shetty who has a special interest in dermatology.

NHS IS 70!

On 5th July this year the NHS is 70 years old, before this you had to pay for medical treatment, even to see a GP. The surgery will celebrate this with displays and other events organised by the PPG. If you have memories of this practice or even memorabilia you would be willing to loan

to the surgery for a couple of months, please contact the practice manager Katie Mitchell.

WE NEED YOU!

Want to make a difference? don't just moan and groan about what you are not happy with at the practice, turn that negative into a positive and join this patient group! We urgently need more members, so we can do more, we are mostly women (one man) and in the 50+ age range, a majority retired but some working still. We therefore would like our group to be more diverse. To represent across the patient database.

We meet generally once a quarter at 5pm. To try and encourage more people to participate please complete the survey below or whilst at the practice.

THE BROMLEY COMMON PRACTICE PATRICIPATION GROUP SURVEY

The group has been running for several years and from April 2016 it is compulsory for all GP practices to have a patient group as part of their NHS contract.

We exist to discuss services on offer by the practice. We also like to raise awareness of the practice and certain health conditions at community events.

We would like to be more active but there are insufficient numbers to do this.

Therefore, we are asking you, what would work better for you to be able to take an active part in the group, which is currently under represented by men and the under 40's. We would also like to be more ethnically diverse.

To help us to plan, please answer the following questions:

1. Are you interested in joining the group? Yes/No
2. If so what would be the best time to attend a meeting?

Lunchtime/Early Evening

3. What day/s would be best for you? Please state below:
4. If you cannot physically attend a meeting due to other Commitments, what other way would you like to be part of the group.

Email as a virtual member?

Join a closed Facebook group?

Join a closed WhatsApp group?

Any other suggestions?

Please leave your name and contact details below if you are interested in any of the above options.

Name:

Tel Number:

Email:

Thank you for completing this survey.