



YELVERTON SURGERY



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2013

We have had a very busy year with lots of changes going on within the NHS as a whole. This newsletter has information regarding new vaccines available this winter, some new NHS services and new faces you will see around the surgery...

Flu jabs available now!

Please don't wait to receive a letter or phone call before booking your appointment.

Government priority groups for seasonal flu include **everyone over 65** and patients with:

Diabetes ~ Asthma ~ COPD ~ heart disease ~ a history of stroke or TIA ~ kidney or liver disease ~ low immunity

Carers are also entitled to a flu jab.

Patients in the priority groups may also benefit from a once only vaccination against Pneumonia.

If you are unsure if you are eligible, we will be happy to check for you.

This year, 2 and 3 year olds are being offered a vaccine against flu.

This is the first age group to get the vaccine as part of a programme that aims to protect all children aged 2 to 16 years.

The vaccine is given as a nasal spray up each nostril.

If your child is was born between 02/09/2009 and 01/09/2011 please make an appointment in a children's flu clinic.

Shingles Vaccines

Shingles vaccines are available for **patients aged 70** (those born between 02/09/1942 & 01/09/1943) and **patients aged 79** (those born between 02/09/1933 & 01/09/1934)

Please book an appointment in a shingles vaccination clinic.

Telephone invites and text reminders

We have begun to use an automated service to contact patients about routine checks and services such as asthma checks, blood pressure monitoring and flu jabs. This gives the reception and administrative staff more time to answer the phone and deal with patients at the desk. It also helps us to save paper and money spent on postage.

If you do not wish to receive automated messages, please let us know and we can opt you out of this service. You will still receive reminders and invitations by letter or our receptionists will contact you on the phone.

NHS Health Checks are available for patients aged 40-74 who do not have a pre-existing chronic condition.

The checks involve: height, weight & waist measurements; blood pressure, cholesterol & blood sugar checks; smoking, alcohol and general lifestyle advice. Please make an appointment with our Health Care Assistant in a designated clinic or ring the surgery for more information.

Health and Social Care Information Centre

Information about you and the care you receive is shared, in a secure system, by healthcare staff to support your treatment and care, using information such as your post code and NHS number, but not your name.

Sharing information can help improve understanding, locally and nationally, of the most important health needs and the quality of the treatment and care provided by local health services. It may also help researchers by supporting studies that identify patterns in diseases, treatments and solutions.

You have a right to choose what happens with your information. If you are happy, then you do not need to do anything. If you would prefer that your information was not shared or would like further details, please pick up a leaflet in reception.



NHS 111 has now gone live in this area. You should use this service out of surgery hours if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life threatening situation. For more information pick up a leaflet in reception or go to our website (www.yelvertonsurgery.co.uk).

We would like to welcome Dr Tamsin Simpkins who joined us as a GP Registrar in August.

She has written a little bit about herself for us...



"I am originally from Canada having spent my early childhood in Ontario until the age of 12. Since then I have lived in the South Hams and would now consider myself truly Devonian. I went to the Peninsula Medical School spending time in Plymouth, Devon and as far afield as Truro. I graduated in 2009 and have spent the last four years working in different specialities in Derriford Hospital including Ophthalmology, Paediatrics and most recently six months in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. My grandfather, Dr Dodge, was a well respected GP in Ivybridge and I feel very privileged to follow in his footsteps by completing my GP training in the same area. My first few weeks in the practice have been very enjoyable - thanks to all the friendly and helpful staff and patients. I look forward to the rest of my year here and am sure that all I will learn from you will greatly help my patients in the future."



We are also delighted to welcome Dr Tom Hanson back to the team to complete his final year of GP training. Dr Hanson was with us for six months in 2011 and then went back to work in Derriford for 18 months where he gained further experience in Accident and Emergency, Paediatrics, the Renal Unit and Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

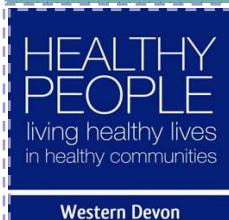
Dr Hanson and Dr Simpkins will be with us until August 2014.

Pastures new...

Dr Kivell and Dr McKnight both left us at the beginning of August. Dr Kivell has successfully completed his GP training after being with us for over 18 months. He has now gone back to pursue his career as a doctor in the Army.

After being with us for 6 months Dr McKnight has moved on to another GP Practice to complete the last 12 months of her GP training.

We would like to thank them both for all their hard work and wish them every success in the future.



The NHS reforms have meant there have been some changes to some of organisations to which we belong. We are now contracted to provide Personal Medical Services for our registered patients under contract to the Commissioning Board, NHS England (the local Area Team for Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly).



Northern, Eastern and Western Devon Clinical Commissioning Group

NEW Devon CCG is the new local commissioning group, and Yelverton Surgery is part of the Western locality of the New Devon CCG, responsible for the commissioning of the health care of patients in Plymouth and surrounding area. For more information on the CCG, email: d-ccg.Communications@nhs.net, visit www.newdevonccg.nhs.uk, or write to Media and communications, Northern, Eastern and Western Devon CCG, Old Rydon Lane, Exeter, EX2 7JU

NHS England is the Commissioning Board and the local Area Team for Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly AT, are based at Sedgemoor Centre, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 5AS.

The Healthwatch network of new organisations set up in each local authority area as part of the NHS reorganisation. These new organisations will be able to provide some local information and signposting to patients. Healthwatch is keen to hear the views of local people on their experience of using local health and social care services. The local contact details are:

Devon: 0800 520 0640 (www.healthwatchdevon.co.uk)

Plymouth: 01752 202407 (www.healthwatchplymouth.co.uk)