



YOUR VOICE

MARCH 2018

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP
CRANLEIGH GARDENS MEDICAL CENTRE & WESTONZOYLAND SURGERY

Practice Update

Dr Upton

We regretfully announce that Dr Jon Upton will be moving on to another GP practice closer to home for work/life balance reasons. Dr Upton will be leaving on the 31st March and will be sorely missed by patients, staff and the clinical team. In turn Dr Upton will miss the patients he has established close links with over the years as well as valued colleagues.

Dr Upton joined the Brent House surgery in 2006 and played an important role in establishing Cranleigh Gardens Medical Centre in 2011. His contribution has been essential in establishing the new practice as well as developing it over recent years into what it is today. Everyone wishes him well in his new position

Although Dr Upton will cease being a partner from 31st March he will still be at the practice undertaking his dermatology clinics 2 days per week until the end of August.

There is a book in reception for anyone that would like to pass on any comments to him.

Dr Gilmour-White

The practice will also be seeing some changes in respect of Dr Gilmour-White. With Effect from 31st March she will be stepping down as a partner but the good news is that she will be continuing to undertake the same amount of clinical coverage for the practice as a salaried GP.

Dr Gilmour-White has been the senior partner for a number of years and will be sorely missed for all the hard work she has put into the effective running of the partnership. The practice has succession planning for both Dr Upton leaving and Dr Gilmour-White stepping down as a partner.

Women's Health:

HPV Vaccination

Since September 2008 there has been a national programme to vaccinate girls aged 12-13 against human papilloma virus (HPV). There is also a three-year catch up campaign that will offer the HPV vaccine (also known as the cervical cancer jab) to 13-18 year old girls.

The programme is delivered largely through secondary schools, and consists of three injections that are given over a six-month period. In the UK, more than 1.4 million doses have been given since the vaccination programme started.

What is Human papilloma virus (HPV)?

Human papilloma virus (HPV) is the name of a family of viruses that affect the skin and the moist membranes that line your body, such as those in your cervix, anus, mouth and throat. These membranes are called the mucosa.

There are more than 100 different types of HPV viruses, with about 40 types affecting the genital area. These are classed as high risk and low risk.

How you get HPV?

Types of HPV that affect the skin can be passed on by skin contact with an affected person. The types of HPV that affect the mouth and throat can be passed on through kissing. Genital HPV is usually spread through intimate, skin to skin, contact during sex. You can have the genital HPV virus for years and not have any sign of it.

How HPV can cause cervical cancer?

Most HPV infections are harmless or cause genital warts; however some types can cause cervical cancer. Most HPV infections clear up by themselves, but in some people the infection can last a long time. HPV infects the cells of the surface of the cervix where it can stay for many years without you knowing.

The HPV virus can damage these cells leading to changes in their appearance. Over time, these changes can develop into cervical cancer. The purpose of cervical screening (testing) is to detect these changes, which, if picked up early enough, can be treated to prevent cancer happening. If they are left untreated, cancer can develop and may lead to serious illness and death.

Further information regarding the HPV Vaccine can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/pages/hpv-human-papillomavirus-vaccine.aspx>.

Clinical coverage

In view of the recent bad weather appointments have had to be cancelled and re-arranged more than the practice would have liked to have had happen. The practice would like to extend its thanks for the understanding of all those patients that have had appointments re-arranged at short notice. The practice did however remain open at all times during the Thursday & Friday of the week commencing 26th February. The practice is now trying to catch up and has seen unprecedented volumes of patients in recent days.

Missed Appointments

To help with the practice catch up PLEASE let the practice know if you are unable to attend your appointment.

It is appreciated at times not all people can make appointments but please let the practice know so they can offer these appointments to other patients.