



Billericay Medical Practice
Patient Participation Group Newsletter
Summer 2022

Status Quo for our patients!

You may have read that the BMA suggested GPs cut the number of patients they saw in the day. When the committee met with our Practice Manager last month, we were pleased to hear that was not going to happen in our surgery.

The practice is yet again setting up a flu vaccination session on Saturday 1st October so look out for information about this in the waiting room and on the website.

Many patients have had problems when phoning the practice, so they are looking at changing from BT to a different supplier. It is sad to report that the police have had to be called on several occasions recently because patients have become aggressive while on the premises. Please bear in mind that the staff have to deal with many problems and are doing their best.

A Physiotherapist First Contact Practitioner has been added to the Billericay Primary Care Network with a member of staff allocated to each surgery. This means the practice can offer a 30-minute face to face appointment on a Friday or a telephone consult on Monday or Tuesdays.

The practice does in some instances refer patients to private hospitals who have been commissioned to provide health services for the NHS. Problems have on occasions resulted when those patients have been given private instead of NHS prescriptions. Do let us know if this has happened to you.

All CHANGE - AGAIN!

Remember PCTs? (Primary Care Trusts) These were replaced by CCGs (Clinical Commissioning Groups) a few years ago, which dealt with secondary care e.g., hospital services etc. Now these are to go as well and from July 1st we will have ICS, Integrated Care Services. This will be led by the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and operated by the Integrated Care Partnership (ICP). It does not appear as though any patient involvement has been built in. Currently there is a Patient & Community Reference Group which liaises with the CCG Board, but this has met for the last time. We have been in the Arterial Locality and met regularly as a PEG (Patient Engagement Group). These will be replaced by Alliance teams. Basildon and Brentwood is ours. Whether this is just a change of name or fundamentally different who knows? Watch this space!!!