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### **Health Management Reviews for patients with Asthma**

It is important that our patients with Asthma are reviewed at least once a year by one of our Asthma Specialist Nurses to ensure that you are on the correct medication for your needs. Even if you suffer “seasonally” and perhaps only require one prescription for inhalers every year – it is still important that you come in for review. We are required to invite ALL asthma patients in for a review who have had a prescription for inhalers in the last 12 months.

Some of our patients with Asthma also suffer from one or more of the following chronic conditions: Diabetes, Heart Disease, Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD), Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD/PVD), and patients who have had strokes. If this is the case, you will be called in once more for a separate review which will mean a blood test appointment and then a 20 minute review appointment with one of our Specialist Practitioner Nurses.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Q. Why can't I be seen during one appointment? I don't want to keep coming to the surgery for different appointments

A. Whilst the idea behind this new system was to minimise the amount of appointments needed for patients to attend for their review – it was found that because asthma needs a very different type of review, it was not possible for our nurses to combine this alongside (for example) a diabetic review. The decision has been taken that asthma needs to be treated separately but we will still minimise appointments as far as possible.

Q. My asthma is “fine” – why do I need to come in for a review?

A. Most asthmatics manage very well but we have a duty of care if you are having regular medication (even if it is only annually) to make sure that we review you at least once a year at the surgery.

Q. I am under regular review at the hospital for my condition – do I still need this review?

A. Yes, we need to see our patients at least once a year.

### **Important**

Should you decide not to attend your review and you have medication on a repeat basis, the decision may be taken that you can no longer order this as a repeat, but will need to make an appointment for in order to receive future prescriptions, until you have attended your review. This is for your own safety in order to ensure that the medication you are taking is appropriate and working as it should.

You will receive up to 3 invites per financial year. Please let us know after the first invite if you do not wish to attend so that this message can be passed to your GP and Asthma Nurse and help save postage costs and therefore help the NHS.

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