

## **JULY 2014 NEWSLETTER**

### **Early Script Requests**

Please note, if you are requesting a script early and do not state a reason, it might not be done or it might be done but post-dated. If your regular chemist picks up the post-dated script, he/she will not be able to dispense this until the date on the script. If you are requesting early for holidays, please say so at the time of request.

### **Electronic Prescriptions**

This turned out to be ridiculously exciting with script requests being transmitted directly to the pharmacist of your choice. Any interested patients need to register with the pharmacist of your choice and this then removes the need for you to call in and collect scripts. In theory, the pharmacist should have it all ready for you within two working days of making the request. Do not use this service if you use several different pharmacies as you can only register with one. This service does not work for controlled drugs and the patient/pharmacist is still required to collect these in person. Your challenge is to remember which pharmacist you signed up with!

### **Locum Doctors**

In the last two months we have been very fortunate in that Dr Emma Hughes, Dr Stephanie Woodcock and Dr Shilpa Chegu have worked locum sessions for the practice to cover annual leave and training courses. We are still looking for a permanent doctor but are very pleased to have secured such high quality locums.

### **E-Cigarettes**

A further alert has been issued and advice given NOT to charge the e-cigarette batteries in a car and NOT to be used in an oxygen rich environment – or you might go ‘bang’.

### **Pain Patches**

If prescribed strong analgesic pain patches, please ensure their safe disposal. Fold the patch (sticky side together) on removal and dispose carefully. Do not leave it to be found by others, especially children. If offered a painkilling patch that has been prescribed to another person, DO NOT ACCEPT. The dose might be fatal to one not used to opiates.

### **Holiday Vaccinations**

Please allow plenty of time for booking holiday vaccinations. Please book appointment with the doctor if needing malarial prophylaxis.

Please keep skin safe on holiday and protect yourself against the sun. We would recommend SPF 30 or above.

If holidaying in the UK, pack broolly and wellies!

### **Suggestions**

If you have any ideas on how we can improve the service we offer, please complete a slip and post it in the suggestion box. The next Patient Participation Group meeting is 9<sup>th</sup> July and all suggestions will be discussed with the group.