



Park Grove Surgery Newsletter

Autumn
2013

Welcome

Welcome to the Patient Newsletter for Autumn 2013. We hope you are all enjoying the wonderful display of colour that comes with the transition from Summer to Autumn. It is at this time that we should be preparing for winter and thinking about "Keep Warm, Keep Well". There is a handy leaflet available from the Department of Health that gives advice on **staying well** in cold weather, covering issues such as financial help, healthy lifestyle, flu jabs and heating. If you would like a copy please inform reception.

Flu Season

We have been giving out the flu vaccine since the back end of September and take up has been quite successful so far. One quarter of our practice population qualify for a free flu jab but not all patients take advantage of this service.

There are some myths associated with it that we think "put people off". The vaccine is not live and so will NOT give you flu. If in the past you have had the vaccine and then developed flu it is probably because you came into contact with the bug just prior to your injection. The vaccine protects against 3 different strains of the virus. The Department of Health would like 75% of the eligible population to be vaccinated as this in turn will relieve pressure on the hospital during the winter months. We still have some supplies left and if you would like to book in or check your eligibility please ask at reception. Local pharmacies are giving out the vaccine for patients who do not qualify but there is a fee for this. For more information contact your local pharmacy.

Advanced Nurse Practitioner Service

Although the ANP service has been running for just over a year now, the recent survey shows that not many of our patients are aware of this service. The ANP service is predominantly a same day service for any patient needing an appointment for a prescription, referral, sick note, chronic problem, medication queries. The ANP can deal with the vast majority of problems that a patient would book in to see a GP for and have instant access to a GP if necessary. So if you are offered this service please book in and see for yourself.

Your say

We would also very much appreciate any comments or ideas you may have concerning the practice which could improve the service and if you would like to join the Practice Patient Group please pass your details to the Receptionist.

Website

www.parkgrovesurgery.co.uk

If you would like to register for on line services please see the receptionist. Please be aware that if you are unable to use this service it does not disadvantage you in any way. Appointments that are available on line are the same as the ones that the staff can book so just serve to reduce the number of calls into the surgery for those who can only use this method.

Telephone Advice

Did you know.....that you can ring the surgery and just ask for advice over the telephone. The receptionist will pass a message to the Doctor on call for you and ring you back with their advice.

Remember we are here to help, so just let us know your query and if possible we will facilitate your request.

Contact Details

Please make sure we have your up to date address and telephone numbers. We do offer a service where we can text appointment details to you so if you provide us with a current mobile number we can make sure you take advantage of this service.

Welcome Dr Ahmed

We are lucky to have Dr Luqman Ahmed join our practice team here at Park Grove. He will start by covering four sessions a week on Mondays and Tuesday for us. Dr Ahmed lives locally and will have already met some of you during surgery. Please give him a warm welcome and we look forward to working with him on a regular basis.
