**LEYTON HEALTHCARE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)**

**WEDNESDAY 11th January 2017**

**MINUTES**

Attendees: 6 patient representative group members:

 Caroline Paul, Clinical Practice Manager

 Dr Dinesh Kapoor (Senior GP Partner)

Apologies: KM and HM and JW

Chair: BS

**1. Apologies**

CP gave the apologies on behalf of

**2. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**

Name badges-These are still in the process of being looked into. CP has made a few enquiries and into various suppliers and their costs.

SMS-Text messaging is available which is used widely within the practice.

Waltham Forest Carers- Amendments to the last minutes: Waltham Forest Carers site has not moved-The contract is now being provided by Carer’s First and can still be accessed via our link on the website.

**3. Topics For Discussion**

BS discussed the cut to pharmacies and are the GP’s supporting this. The NHS are looking for savings and this could potentially be done by reducing monies paid to the pharmacies. The pharmacies may be forced to close. DK was not aware of this and the pharmacy community has not asked for any support as yet. BS suggested the possibility of running a campaign and DK did say he was happy for a petition to be placed in reception.

DK went on to discuss the Patient Reference Group-(a meeting that he had just returned from). An e-mail was sent to all member of the PPG relating to this. The information is all very new at the moment and DK will feed back as and when.

It was heard on the news that testicular cancer could be detected from a blood test. The question was raised that when sending patient’s for blood tests, could another box be ticked to request this. DK went onto explain that there are two priorities at present-Breast and Bowel Cancer screening and these are managed by the NHS screening programme. Some blood tests can only be authorised by a specialist.

Blood test turn around has improved immensely. DK went on to explain how he is trying to go down the electronic route. He would like patients to be informed of a normal test result within one week via text message.

EH mentioned the flickering lights-CP advised that this was duly noted and as soon as a maintenance engineer can be arranged-these lights will be changed. The PPG are aware of the difficulties of arranging maintenance.

**4.Any Other Business**

MW stated that she was very impressed with the receptionists. BW needed immediate treatment and was seen straight away. The nurses were also very good. Dr Couppis was also mentioned and that he was very good and that a few of the patients he has seen have been very impressed with him. DK has been trying to get all the staff to work collectively.

If you have any items for agenda-please let Caroline know.

Date of next Meeting: 15.03.2017

Pre-meet-05.30pm, meeting to commence at 6.00pm