

Newsletter

Dunedin Medical Practice

Produced by the Patient Participation Group

November 2010

STAFF CHANGES

Dr Carlyne Simpson returns to the Practice on the 22nd November from maternity leave. She is the principal practice partner.



Dr Catriona Clubb has been acting as a GP locum in Dr Simpson's absence so concludes her work with the Practice in mid-November.



Dr. Antonio Uceta-Perez joined the Practice as a permanent GP on the 1st February 2010 and will be working mainly on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Kathryn Henderson is acting as Practice Nurse for two days a week and Chris Mackay is also available should the workload require it.

Carol Maclean is now the Office Manager, and if you have any concerns or ideas for improvement, Carol should be your first point of contact.

SEASONAL FLU CAMPAIGN

This year, as well as those who are normally considered at risk, unpaid carers are being encouraged to protect themselves and their loved ones by getting the seasonal flu jab.

This year's campaign will also target pregnant women for the first time.

The R.E.A.C.T Protect Learning Time Project

This provides Primary Care Teams protected time to develop, update and enhance their skills for the benefit of their patients, and for this reason the Practice will be closed on the following afternoons from 1.00 p.m.:

Tuesday 23rd November 2010

Tuesday 22nd February 2011

Wednesday 23rd March 2011

NEW ACTION PLAN

Over the next 5 years the Scottish Government aims to make Scotland a world leader in the delivery of high quality health care. There are 3 quality ambitions: care which is safe, clinically effective and person-centred. Primary Care is central to delivering this aim which has led to the production of the action plan, entitled 'Delivering Quality in Primary Care'. The action plan was officially launched on 19 August at a primary care centre in Renfrew by Cabinet Secretary Nicola Sturgeon, who has supported and endorsed the document. You can read the action plan online at-

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010>

PATIENT SURVEY

Thank you to all who were sent, and completed the national survey last year. The results were compiled and circulated a few months ago.

We are pleased to say that Dunedin performed extremely well against national averages and achieved maximum points for the outcomes.

A copy of the survey report is available at reception for anyone who would like to view it.

PTO



MEDICINES REVIEW

Improving quality of care and safety

Patients who are taking a lot of medicines or who are at particularly high risk of medication side effects may be asked to make appointments at their local medical practice to have their prescriptions reviewed. Alternatively, a doctor will review medication and inform patients of any changes.

Consultant Dr Martin Wilson said: “An increasing number of people suffer from more than one medical condition. Over time the list of medicines they receive on a repeat prescription can get quite long. However circumstances change and a drug that was right for a person years ago may no longer be giving them any benefit and may be causing side effects. In addition people as they approach the natural end of life can be particularly vulnerable to the side effects of drugs. It is important that particular attention is paid to drug prescribing in these groups to avoid inadvertently causing harm.”

New guidance has been introduced to help doctors decide which drugs to stop and when.

The people who are most likely to have their medicines reviewed are:

- people on 10 or more drugs
- people in care homes
- people receiving palliative or end of life care
- people who are suffering side effects of medication
- people on high-risk drugs for side effects/adverse reactions.

Medication reviews will also ensure patients are taking the correct medicines to get the best possible relief from symptoms and, where possible, prevent or delay symptoms.

OUR WEBSITE

Our website is getting many visits and has all the information required in making full use of the service. In particular, it provides an easy means of arranging repeat prescriptions and gives useful links to other health services. You will find it to be a simple site to navigate and access and is certainly worthwhile adding to your *favorites/bookmarks*.

The site address is

www.dunedinmedicalpractice.co.uk

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Since its inception, the Practice has had a group of patients who now meet six-weekly with the practice manager or doctor to review the running of the practice.

At present there are seven in the group. Finances are given to the group to provide amenities for patients. This has been a beneficial exercise and the group would very much like more patients to participate, in order to be as representative as possible.

You could come along to one of its meetings at which you would be most welcome, - or actually join the group to meet at its fairly brief sessions. These are held, at the moment, on a Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Funds are available to provide for a carer or child-minder and also transport if that were required for you to attend.

Please contact James Muir for more information at 230264.

You may also wish to contact him if you had an issue about the Practice which you thought worthwhile bringing up.

Alternatively, Denis Lumsden may be contacted at 222693 for the same purpose.