

Newsletter November 2015

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Walking For Health - Best Foot Forward:

Do you want to get more active? Walking is a great way to get fit, explore what is on your doorstep and make new friends.

Health Trainers Tom Jowitt, Chris Moreton and Scott Copeland will lead a group short walk every Wednesday at 9.30am; starting and finishing at Walderslade Surgery.

If you are interested in joining 'Walderslade Walkers' or for further details please contact Pat Gregory, Patient Liaison / Communications manager, on 01226 352407.



Alternatively, to find out more about local health walks visit:

www.walkingforhealth.org.uk

European Antibiotic Awareness Day – 18th November:

This annual event aims to raise awareness on how to use antibiotics in a responsible way. Antibiotics are not always the answer! That is one of the key messages to those suffering from coughs or colds this winter.

- Antibiotics do not work for ALL colds, or for most coughs, sore throats or earache. Your body can usually fight these infections on its own.
- Good hygiene is essential in reducing the risk of spread of infections and is especially important in households with individuals who have chronic illnesses.
- Antibiotic resistance is a threat to your health.
- The more we use antibiotics, the greater the chance that bacteria will become resistant to them so that they no longer work on our infections.
- Antibiotics are important medicines and should only be taken when prescribed by a health professional.
- When antibiotics are prescribed by a health professional it is important that you always take them as directed.
- Antibiotics can have side effects as they upset the natural balance of bacteria potentially resulting in diarrhoea and/or thrush. The use of inappropriate antibiotics may also allow other more harmful bacteria to increase. Antibiotics can also cause other side effects such as rashes, stomach pains and reactions to sunlight.
- Antibiotic resistant bacteria don't just affect you; they can spread to other people (and animals) in close contact with you and are very difficult to treat.

For further information go to www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/ARC/Pages/AboutARC.aspx

Public Health England has launched an Antibiotic Guardian campaign and is asking members of the public, healthcare professionals and leaders to take action by choosing a pledge about how they will make better use of antibiotics. For more details on how to become an Antibiotic Guardian go the website www.antibioticguardian.com



Walderslade Surgery Patient Participation Group (PPG):

The next meeting of the PPG is scheduled for Tuesday 8 December, 2.00pm, at the surgery. If this is something you are interested in joining please ask a member of our reception team, or complete one of our expression of interest forms available in the surgery waiting rooms.

Medical Interoperability Gateway (MIG) & Information Sharing Agreement:

The MIG is a means of connecting healthcare systems across local healthcare organisations to enable clinicians to securely share up-to-date patient data / information.

The information sharing agreement allows patient medical information to be accessed, on a view only basis, by clinicians in other healthcare organisations in the Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) area. Walderslade Surgery has signed up to the MIG and information sharing agreement.

Whenever a clinician from the local healthcare organisations wishes to view a patient's record they will always seek the patient's permission before doing so. If the patient says 'no' then they will not be able to see any information. Only when a patient gives explicit consent to a clinician at the point of care can they view a patient's record.

The type of information shared is restricted and includes patient demographics, a summary of current problems, current medication, allergies, recent tests, diagnosis, procedures, investigations, risks and warnings.

Organisations in the Barnsley CCG area who have a MIG sharing agreement with Walderslade Surgery include Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, South and West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT), Yorkshire Ambulance Service, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Out of Hours Service provider (currently Care UK), Barnsley Hospice, Community Pharmacies and Barnsley GP Federation for the I-Heart Barnsley extended hours hubs provider.

I-HEART Barnsley:

This is a new service designed to give more choice for patients to access GP and nurse appointments and is available to anyone who is registered with a GP in the Borough of Barnsley. It is led by the Barnsley Healthcare Federation and supported by Barnsley CCG. Funding for the service was granted through the Prime Ministers Challenge Fund earlier this year (as reported in the August issue of the Walderslade Surgery Newsletter - '7 Day Services').

The new service will include the provision of two surgery hubs which will offer GP and nurse appointments outside of normal practice hours (evenings and weekends) as well as different ways to access these appointments.

The CCG has chosen **Woodlands Drive Medical Centre, Barnsley** and **Chapelfield Medical Centre, Wombwell** for the new hub locations. The hubs will offer I-HEART services from **Monday 2 November, 2015**, and will run as a pilot scheme until September 2016.

The services offered at the hubs will include a clinician led telephone assessment service, bookable appointments with GPs and nurses for face to face and telephone consultations, video calls and an email advice service.

The services offered at the hubs will not replace any existing services offered at Walderslade Surgery but will provide an additional service to compliment access to appointments.

October Missed Appointments:

316 patients did not attend their booked appointment including 33 who did not attend the flu vaccination clinic held on Saturday 17 October. These appointments could have been offered to other patients. Please remember to cancel your appointment if you are unable to keep it.



Well you might have noticed that we all (more or less all!) wore pink on 23rd October. Mandy Pickles, our Prescriptions clerk, organised the event and raised a fantastic **£93.07** for breast cancer research. Thank you to everyone who wore pink and to those who donated.