

ELMSWOOD SURGERY SHERWOOD HEALTH CENTRE

PRACTICE NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS 2011

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR PATIENTS, AND A PEACEFUL AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR

PRACTICE CHANGES

Dr Black has left the practice after 24 years here. He will be concentrating on his medical director role in the County and working in GP commissioning, while working one day a week at the Platform 1 GP practice in the City Centre

The practice name has changed to "ELMSWOOD SURGERY"

Dr Anita Bloor has joined us. We welcome her to the team

TELEPHONING THE SURGERY

We would remind all our patients that there is always huge pressure on the telephone system from 8.30 am for a couple of hours, every day. If your call is not of an urgent nature, please could you call us later in the morning or in the early afternoon. Please also remember you can use the on-line system for appointment booking, and ordering repeat medication



VACCINES

We would remind all our patients aged over 65 that they are eligible for **pneumonia vaccine**, if they have **not already had one**. This is usually only given once, rather than seasonally like the flu vaccine.

It is also recommended that all diabetics and those with COPD should have a pneumonia vaccination

Pneumonia can cause more serious complications in more vulnerable people

Holiday vaccinations for most destinations are available at the surgery. Please try to book in with the practice nurse for holiday "jabs" with at least 4 weeks notice, and tell the receptionist where you are going so that the nurse can be prepared.

If you are going away please remember to check in plenty of time that you have enough medication for your trip

SEASONAL REMINDERS

FLU JABS!!!

... ARE STILL AVAILABLE

You may have your free vaccination if you are over 65, or fall into an "at risk" group. Please phone reception or ask at the desk when you are next in the Health Centre

PRESCRIPTIONS

Please help yourselves and us by ordering your medication in plenty of time before the Christmas break, and please ensure that you have sufficient to cover you over the holiday period

Website

For those of you who are not yet aware.....

The practice has a website which we keep updated with details about clinics and services, training days, when we may be closed, and information about staff changes

You can visit it at:

www.sherwoodhealthcentre.co.uk

INTERNET BOOKING

Just a reminder that you can book appointments with a GP, or order your repeat prescriptions online....

You can register for this service by calling in at the reception desk and asking the staff for a form to use the online service. Once issued with a letter you can visit our website at www.sherwoodhealthcentre.co.uk

and click on the icons on the home page, to register and make use of the service

You can book *routine* appointments with a GP, (but not with a nurse), and you may order any medication which is on repeat, on our clinical computer system.

Many patients find this useful as the system is available 24hours a day, seven days a week

AUTOMATED ARRIVALS

When you come to the surgery for an appointment you can use our automated arrivals screen, located to the far left of reception. It is very easy to use, and allows the receptionists more time to help those booking appointments, or with queries, who may need more help from the staff.

To date, after almost three years of use, the system information tells us that it has been used about 57,500 times!!

It really is very simple to use!!

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

We often find we try to contact patients, only to find that the telephone number which we are holding is incorrect. Please remember to keep us up to date with your latest phone number; and also please keep your address details up to date in case we need to write to you. If you have a keysafe, or look after somebody who has one please let us have the number in case of need.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

We now have a patient participation group run by Dr Malik. This is *usually* held on the either on the second Friday of the month, or on a Wednesday evening, here at the health centre.

If you are interested, please contact Dr Malik at the surgery or e-mail him at :

drimalik@hotmail.com

The chairman of the group is Mr John Hackett.

The next meetings are scheduled for: **Wednesday 14th December, 6.30pm to 7.30pm (note different day and time)**

Minutes of these meetings are available on our website

From 1st October:

Drs Trimble, Milburn, King, Malik, Bond & Bloor

Elmswood surgery

Sherwood Health Centre

Elmswood Gardens

Sherwood

Nottingham

NG5 4AD

Telephone 0115 9858822

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday , 8.30am to 6.30pm

*****Extra GP clinics between 7 and 8 am on Monday & Tuesday, and 6.30 and 7.30pm on Monday**

*****please note that these clinics have changed this year**

We will be closed for training on Tuesday afternoons from time to time.