

East Quay Medical Centre
Patient Group Meeting
Wednesday 14th December 2016

Minutes

Attendees:

Sue Hughes Beverley Wride Angela Cox John Day Beth Maddock Mary Winning Beris Cross
June Robinson Eddie Nicolas Jo Eydmann Linda Driver Vivien Butler

Apologies: Rowena O'Toole David Allen Sally May Patricia Walker

1. Notes from the previous meeting:

- Beris reported that there was still no update from our Euro MP about the withdrawal of sending unused drugs to deprived countries and she will write again in the New Year.

2. Points from the Group

- A member commented on the ending of the Dermatology service at MPH. There are not taking on any new non suspected cancer patients due to consultant shortage in the service. Any referrals will be dealt with by the RMC and alternative hospitals will be offered on an individual basis. The manpower shortage with Dermatologists is national and has been known for a number of years.

3. Road works

Rachel explained to the group what was happening from January (dates not yet confirmed) on the junctions of The Drove/Wylds Road/Bristol Road. The plans were distributed to the group showing how to access the medical centre from January. The changes are being made in order to widen the junctions so the EDF lorries can turn safely. Rachel has been in discussions with the council and EDF about this and the original plans have been altered following this. We are publicising the information as widely as we can and have encouraged patients to use online services, telephone consultations and avoid requests for Home Visits where possible too.

4. STP Consultation

Rachel told the group about the massive financial pressure in Somerset and 41 other CCGs in England. The systems transformation team has been formed above the CCG and is working with the CCGs to look at how the deficit can be reduced and brought back into financial balance. Much of this is how systems can be reconfigured in order to save money. There are very different views about the desirability and achievability of the plans. There is particular frustration around the centrally mandated secrecy as well as the apparently reluctance to tackle the national issue (an NHS budget that does not meet the politically fuelled demand on the NHS). The STP plan is currently out to public consultation and Sue will send this around again.

5. AOB

- Sue handed out details of an app available to give definitions of 700 commonly used acronyms and abbreviations in the NHS.
- Beverley offered to host a visit to the court for anyone who was interested. If you have not given your name in and you are interested please let Sue know.
- A member commented on the closure of some rural pharmacies. Rachel explained that the pharmacy contract with the NHS has been changed and hence the current pharmacy model may not be viable for many current pharmacies. We also discussed dispensing doctors.
- Rachel spoke about the new extended access. Somerset has been asked to look at an extra hour and a half per day contact time and some time over the weekend. Details – and enthusiasm – are lacking and it is difficult to find a way forward. Rachel has suggested focussing on self care, minor illness and providing services through the pharmacies to support them as well as improve patients confidence in these services.
- Linda praised the trial physio service we are running in the practice currently.

Date of the next meeting is
Wednesday 25th January 2017 at 12.30pm