

SWANLOW MEDICAL CENTRE

Winter Newsletter December 2016

Adult flu vaccinations



It is time again to have your annual flu vaccination. As in previous years if you qualify you can get a free vaccination done at the surgery. You need to be EITHER aged over 65 or under 65 and have a long term condition i.e. COPD, Diabetes, Heart Disease, etc. If you haven't had your flu vaccination yet please ask the receptionist to make an appointment for you to see Christine our Health Care Assistant.

New Doctors

We have recently employed 2 new doctors; Dr Holly Holmes is our new full time salaried doctor and will be working Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Dr Andrew Wilson is our new part time salaried doctor and will be working Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. I am sure you will all join us in welcoming them to Swanlow.



Children's flu vaccinations



This year the Government has asked us to immunise any child who is aged 2, 3 or 4. If your child hasn't had their vaccination yet please ask the receptionist to make an appointment for your child to see either Melanie, Alma or Olwen our Practice Nurses.

All children under 17 will be offered the nasal vaccination as an alternative to the traditional injection.

Advanced Nurse Practitioner

Want to see a GP out of normal working hours? Can't get your medication review completed during the day as you work? More convenient to be seen after your working day? Gail Bridgwater now has a session with us on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings from 6.30 to 8pm. Gail can refer to secondary care, arrange blood tests, ultrasounds, xrays, give medication etc.

Prime Ministers Access Fund

Winsford has been allocated a pot of money to work on a project so that patients can be seen outside of our core working hours. Winsford is really keen to work together as a "hub" and in the near future we will be offering appointments on Saturdays and Sundays. More details to follow.

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Repeat Prescriptions

Only tick the medication you need on your repeat slip. Practices within Vale Royal CCG are undertaking a piece of work whereby they are empowering the patient to order their own medication, this will ensure that we are only prescribing medicines that you, the patient says they require. We appreciate there may be teething issues with this system but we are already showing results on our prescribing budget.



Self-Refer for Physiotherapy

Do you know you can refer yourself for physiotherapy?
Do you have knee/back/shoulder pain?
No need to see the GP! Ask at reception for the Self-Referral Form for Physiotherapy

MEET SOME OF OUR TEAM

Karen Holt - Karen is the link between the doctors and nurses and you. She ensures that if you have a long term condition you will be reminded to come in and have your ongoing checks and also send you blood forms when it is time to have your bloods done. Karen works part time in the admin office.



Karen Holt



Chris Duffy

Chris Duffy - Chris is our Senior Administrator. She ensures that the paperwork the doctors see on a daily basis is relevant to them (they no longer have to plough through mountains of paperwork), she looks after all the safeguarding procedures, is our IT "expert", does all new staff inductions and helps out with secretarial whenever it is needed.

You can now make appointments via an app on your phone, download myGP and give it a try. If you make an appointment via any method with less than 7 days lead time we will send you a reminder a day before your appointment is due, if you make an appointment between 8 and 28 days in the future we will send you a reminder 3 days before your appointment and then the day before. If you cannot make an appointment for any reason please ring in and cancel it - that appointment could mean the difference to a patient who needs to be seen!