

Barton House Group Practice Bulletin

Autumn 2013



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Care Data

An information system has been developed, which will make increased use of information from medical records with the intention of improving health services. The system is being delivered by the **Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC)** and **NHS England** on behalf of the NHS. Confidential information from your medical records can be used by the NHS to improve services offered so that better care can be delivered to everyone. This information along with your post code and NHS number **but not your name** is sent to a secure system where it can be linked with other health information.

This allows those planning NHS services or carrying out medical research to use information from different parts of the NHS in a way which **does not identify you**.

You have a choice. If you are happy for your information to be used in this way you do not have to do anything.

More information can be found at www.nhs.uk/caredata.

There will be a nationwide publicity campaign by the Department of Health about this new initiative starting in the next few weeks.

Flu

The 'flu' season is now upon us. Flu is a very contagious infection, which can cause serious illness among people aged over 65 years, or those of any age with particular medical conditions. Levels of 'flu' infection rise during the winter months. The best way to protect yourself against 'flu' is by having the 'flu' jab every year.

Those patients who are over 65 or have a medical condition, will have received a letter of invitation. This year, the government has extended the **flu vaccination programme** to include **all children aged 2 and 3**. For children the vaccination is in the form of a nasal spray instead of an injection. It is quick and painless and once vaccinated will mean your child is less likely to become ill if they come into contact with the flu virus.

You can find more information about the children's vaccination programme at NHS Choices website www.nhs.uk

Only those patients who have received a letter inviting them to be vaccinated are eligible for the flu vaccine.

Ordering Repeat Prescriptions

You will soon be able to order your repeat prescription in a different way. Some patients currently order via the website. We are now able to set up a system that allows patients to order via our own GP system. When you order you will see a list of medications that you **currently have on your repeat list** and will simply need to select the medication you want to re-order. This will reduce errors allowing you to choose from your existing list of medications.

We have not switched off the web-site facility yet. We will let you know within the next few weeks when the new system will go live.

Electronic Prescription Service—EPS

We are also piloting a system called **Electronic Prescribing Service** which is a new way of receiving your repeat prescription. When you visit the GP, if you would like to, you can elect to collect your medication directly at the chemist. The prescription request will go straight to your elected chemist and all you need do is go to the chemist and collect the medicine. It means that there will be no need for you to come to the surgery to collect your repeat prescription.

We are starting first with prescriptions currently sent directly to the chemist but soon, more patients will be able to elect to collect their medication this way.

New Out of Hours Service in Hackney

NHS City and Hackney Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has appointed an organisation run by local GPs to deliver the out-of-hours service across the City and Hackney. This means that local doctors will be responsible for the care of local patients both in hours and out-of-hours. The contract was awarded to City and Hackney Urgent Healthcare Social Enterprise (CHUHSE), a not-for-profit social enterprise run by local GPs for a term of 4 years. It is due to begin in November 2013.

Shaping Local Health Services—Have Your Say!

Help shape local health services and join in the discussions about the Clinical Commissioning Group's commissioning intentions for 2014-15.

There will be focus groups led by the CCG Clinical Leads - Maternity Services, Children's Services, Mental Health Services, Urgent Care, Planned Care, Primary Care Quality and Prescriptions and Medicines as well as Speakers.

This is your chance to comment on the NHS Call to Action Programme and the CCG Equality Objectives, an opportunity to ask questions and meet your local CCG Team.

Where, when

Wednesday 27th of November 2013, 6.30pm-8.30pm
The Trampery (formerly known as City Edge)
125-127 Mare Street, London E8 3RH

Places are limited, for more information, please contact
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