



Puddletown Surgery

Newsletter Autumn 2007

PUDDLETOWN
SURGERY
BACKWATER
PUDDLETOWN
DORCHESTER
DORSET
DT2 8SD

Tel: 01305 848333

Fax: 01305 848061

E-Mail

carol.taylor@gp-
J81616.nhs.uk

Website

[www.puddletown
surgery.co.uk](http://www.puddletown
surgery.co.uk)

Dispensary

Tel 01305 849329
24 hour line

Flu Clinics 2007

This year we won't be sending out individual letters to invite you to attend for your flu vaccination. If you are aged over 65 or suffer from an illness such as asthma, diabetes or coronary heart disease, you are strongly advised to have a flu vaccination - and a Pneumococcal vaccine if you haven't had one of these before.



Following DoH guidelines, in the first instance flu vaccinations are offered only to those who are over 65 years of age or who suffer from a chronic disease and their carers. Those people who are less vulnerable and fall outside these criteria are welcome to have a flu vaccination after those at risk have been covered; from 19th November 2007.

Flu clinics will start on Monday 8th October. The dates and times of clinics are in leaflet form on the reception desk. and on our website www.puddletownsurgery.co.uk/latest_news.

Unwanted medicines

If you have unwanted medicines at home: tablets, capsules or liquids, please return these to the dispensary. All suitable medicines are collected by a charity called Inter Care (Medical Aid for Africa) and used to treat patients who would otherwise receive no medication. The medicines already being sent by Inter Care enable clinics to provide basic healthcare support to approximately 2.5 million people in rural African communities.

Thank You.

Friends of the Practice

You may be aware that the Surgery provides a transport service, through its 'Friends of the Practice' volunteer drivers, for patients who are unable to drive themselves and have no other means of travelling to their appointments. The service is greatly appreciated by the mainly elderly patients who use it,

Unfortunately some of our Friends of the Practice drivers are moving away from the area or are retiring and we are therefore experiencing difficulties in continuing the service in and around Puddletown itself.

There are now no age restrictions for drivers so if you are fit and healthy, spend some of your weekdays at home and feel that you may be able to help with occasionally driving patients to the surgery, our Friends of the Practice Coordinator, Sue Brazier, would be very pleased to hear from you. (The transport requests are usually approximately once a week, at a time to suit you and travelling expenses are paid to all drivers).

To find out more please contact Sue on 01258 882000, or leave a message at the surgery.

New Surgery

The plans for our new surgery are still with WDDC awaiting planning approval and we are hoping to have more news soon.

Puddletown Surgery Patient Participation Group

On Monday 3rd September 2007 the committee of the PPG met to review and update the constitution of our Group. It clarified that all patients and staff of the Practice are members of the Group and confirmed that the new Aim and Objectives were:

Aim

To provide a working partnership between Patients, Practice Partners and Staff to help develop and build on the quality of healthcare services.

Objectives

- To support good decision making by providing a forum for all involved in the Practice to discuss topics of mutual interest.
- To enable patients to make positive suggestions for healthcare.
- To support and provide communications between the Practice and its patients and to involve them.
- To encourage, support and promote good health education and practice.
- To promote and develop self-help projects for patients.
- To be a representative group that can be called upon to influence the local provision of health and social care on behalf of the Practice.

The committee consists of patient representatives from the Practice, the Practice Manager, a member of the Practice staff, the co-ordinator of the Friends of the Practice and a representative of the Carers. It meets once every three months.

The committee has re-sited the notice board in the Surgery waiting room. We aim to keep this up to date, so please look at it when you can.



Recycling Programme

We have placed a cardboard bin in the foyer for patients to deposit empty cartridges from printers, faxes and copiers. Recycling these items is beneficial to the environment, but the programme also benefits the practice as we receive a small cash sum for each cartridge we return. Please bring in your used cartridges; it has to be a preferable option to adding to a mountain of waste. *Thank You.*

Change of Personal Details

Please keep us updated with your current address and telephone/mobile numbers as we do occasionally need to contact you urgently. The hospital may also need to contact you and won't be able to do so without your current contact details. Thank you for your help.

Wheelchairs for Loan

The surgery has two wheelchairs available for loan. If you would like to borrow one of these please ask at reception.
