

***Rosedean House Surgery Patient Participation Group
Minutes of the meeting held on 12th September 2013***

Present : David Sheppard (DJS) Mike Davies Nick Mallard Tony Reeves Mark Thompson Jean Bailey Jocelyn Barnard Ruth Colrein Judy Davies Denise Doney Pam Jarvis Carol Jay Jackie Le Brocq Julia Lucas Judith Markes Sheila Mullins Vanessa Smith Sheila Wilson Dr Catriona Thornton

Apologies : Edna Caddick Margaret Halliwell Jacqui Smith

DJS introduced Dr Thornton who spoke about "Prescribing in General Practice" The practice spends £1.25 million on drugs a year which is an overspend on the budget of £1.2 million, The budget was set historically and an age weighting and deprivation weighting was applied, the practice is unhappy with the deprivation weighting as it feels that it is using out of date figures. Dr Thornton and Liz Higman do everything possible to keep costs down. The drug market is very volatile and drug companies margins are being squeezed, some drugs cannot be bought for the amount the NHS reimburses. Liz has built good relationships with different wholesalers and watches drug tariffs and manufacturers prices carefully and switches supplier if appropriate, she will also look out for drugs going off patent and stockpile them. Some wholesalers have special offers and even BOGOF's (buy one get one free) they also give loyalty points and, also, if there is difficulty with the supply of a particular drug a good relationship with a wholesaler may help. It is sometimes cheaper to take two small tablets rather than one big one, and taking a different brand of a drug may work out cheaper.

Each month 7/8000 items are prescribed by the practice the cost to the patient of each item on a prescription is now £7.85, 85% of prescriptions are free. When a new patient joins the practice a Doctor will discuss the drugs they are taking with them. The Clinical Commissioning Group has regular prescribing meetings which Dr Thornton attends.

Each year there are patient safety alerts when a particular drug is flagged up as a potential problem, and a switch needs to be made for all the patients using it. The computer system which would have made all patient details readily available to health professionals is on hold as the costs are prohibitive, having risen from an estimated £5 billion to an estimated £35 billion. The plan is now to have limited information i.e. main illness, drugs and allergies on a national spine, with various levels of security covering it. You can opt out of this system.

DJS will investigate the position with regard to the on-line petition re. pharmacies. DJS thanked Dr Thornton on behalf of the group for such an informative and interesting talk.

Minutes from meeting 10th July 2013 :

These were signed as a true record.

Matters Arising :

The on-line booking system is still being made ready.

Medical Staffing :

Dr Bray is still unwell and will not be back for several months, it has not been easy to get locum cover over the summer months but several locums have been at the practice. From October Dr Rajaan will be working at the practice for four days a week.

There has been no further contact from the Care Quality Commission.

Dr Grant Stevens of Rosedean House Surgery has been appointed as Clinical Lead of the Commissioning Group following Dr Neville Devonport's resignation.

There is no further news regarding a visit from Jeremy Hunt.

Feedback from East Cornwall PPG meeting :

Sheila Mullins and Ruth Colrein attended the meeting at which the PPG'S present gave a list of what clinics were held at their surgeries, a discussion was held on the life of a GP and those present were surprised at what Dr Hargadon did. It is becoming obvious that we are fortunate in the way that our group was set up and is run, we should be grateful to the late Dr Andrew Smalley for all he did for the group at the outset and to David Sheppard for all that he does now, DJS emphasized that the group was formed to share information both about the practice and the NHS in general and to form ideas, the Doctors, DJS and the PPG working together for the benefit of all the patients. DJS thanked Sheila and Ruth for attending the meetings.

Ruth is unable to attend the next meeting and Vanessa Smith volunteered to attend.

Feedback from Clinical Commissioning Group Governing Body

Meeting Carol Jay :

Carol Jay gave the meeting a shortened version of the talk she gave to the Clinical Commissioning Group Board meeting on the 3rd. September 2013 a copy is attached to these minutes.

Patient Survey :

The survey is offered to patients at random until 50 have been returned for each GP (7x50 = 350) , the key area this year is the Reception Team with questions on the opening times at the surgery, the availability of appointments and communication.

AOB:

A new medical student will be starting at the practice in October and names were taken of those who would be willing to help him by seeing him and giving their case history.

Provisional date of next meeting : 14th November 2013 @ 18.30