# The Glenfield Surgery

# Patient Participation Group



### Newsletter October 2017

### Welcome to the October 2017 edition of the PPG Newsletter.

### Practice news

#### **Annual Flu clinic**

So far we have vaccinated 2,300 patients. On 18<sup>th</sup> October we began vaccinating children with a nasal vaccination and another clinic is being held on 27<sup>th</sup> October. 886 letters have been sent out to patients who have not yet made an appointment and further clinics will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 9th November.

#### **Shingles Vaccination Eligibility**

You are eligible for the shingles vaccine if you are aged 70 or 78 years old.

In addition, anyone who was eligible for immunisation in the previous three years of the programme but missed out on their shingles vaccination remains eligible until their 80th birthday. This includes:

- people in their 70s who were born after 1 September 1942
- people aged 79 years

The shingles vaccine is not available on the NHS to anyone aged 80 and over because it seems to be less effective in this age group. You can have the shingles vaccination at any time of year, though many people will find it convenient to have it at the same time as their annual flu vaccination.

Is there anyone who should not have the shingles vaccination?

You should not have the shingles vaccine if you:

- have a weakened immune system (for example, because of cancer treatment, if you take steroid tablets or if you've had an organ transplant your doctor will advise whether this applies to you)
- you've had a serious allergic reaction (including an anaphylactic reaction) to a previous dose of any of the substances in the vaccine, such as neomycin and gelatin again, your GP can advise you on this
- you've had a serious allergic reaction (including an anaphylactic reaction) to a previous dose of the chickenpox vaccine
- have an untreated TB infection

### **Travel Vaccinations**

There has been a national shortage of certain travel vaccinations, so if anyone is planning to travel abroad and needs vaccinating, then they should check the availability of the vaccine with the surgery sooner rather than later.

### **Healing Little Hearts Charity**

Following a presentation given to surgery staff and the PPG,the surgery has decided to support the Healing Little Hearts Charity. The presentation was given by Dr Sanjiv Nichani, a consultant paediatrician at Glenfield hospital a co-founder of the HLH charity. Each year several hundred thousand babies are born worldwide with defective hearts that require corrective surgery. Often, they are born in countries that are not able to offer them the life saving surgery that they need. HLH, founded in 2007, has helped to raise money to send medical teams to a number of countries to perform life saving surgery. Teams have been sent to a number of countries and to date more than 970 corrective heart operations have been performed by the volunteer teams of doctors and nurses. It costs about £6,000 to send a team abroad, where they usually perform about 12 operations during their visit. Typically these operation would each cost £9,000 under the NHS but cost about £500 per patient, partly due to the generosity of the medicsl team who give their time voluntarily. The Practice is aiming to raise £6,000 to send a team abroad. If you would like to help in fund raising in anyway then pleade Contact Debbie Bradley at the surgery. More information on HLH can be found at www.healinglittlehearts.org.uk

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#### **PPG news**

#### **Automatic doors**

The heavy doors at the entrance to the surgery, have long been a cause for complaint for patients, particularly for those with pushchairs, more frail or less able bodied. The good news is that the Practice has agreed funding to fit automatic doors to the front door into the foyer and the door into the surgery. The front door into building B will also be replaced. When dates for installation are know these will be published.

#### PPG – Who are we?

We are very conscious as a group that we do not proactively engage too well with the patients. We are looking at ways to address this. We will investigate the practicality of being in the waiting room for a few hours periodically, running some short sharp surveys and other ways to 'grab your attention'.

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If you wish to receive this newsletter by email each month, then either complete a form in the surgery and leave in the PPG suggestions box in the ground floor waiting room or email your request to <u>glenfieldsurgeryppg@outlook.com</u>