

Ecclesfield Group Practice

STAFF NEWS

Following on from Dr Oliver's retirement and Dr D'Cruz leaving the practice, we are currently recruiting a new GP. We currently have regular locums, Dr Julie Hackney and Dr Mark Atkin.



Dr Lucy Wagstaffe is currently on maternity leave, having had a baby girl and Dr Cath Liley is covering her leave.

Welcome to our new receptionists, Leanne, Clare and Christa.

MARCH 2020

www.ecclesfieldgp.co.uk

Try the new NHS App

If you're a patient at our practice you can now use the new NHS App, a simple and secure way to access a range of NHS services on your smartphone or tablet.



You can use the NHS App to check your symptoms and get Instant advice, book appointments, order repeat prescriptions, view your GP medical record and more.

If you already use 'SystemOnline' you can continue to use it. You can use the NHS App as well. For more information go to: www.nhs.uk/nhsapp.

Coronavirus Information

For the latest travel advice and general information please visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Check if you need medical help - NHS 111 has an online coronavirus service that can tell you if you need medical help and advise you what to do.

Use this service if:

you think you might have coronavirus, if you've been to a country or area with a high risk of coronavirus or you've been in close contact with someone with coronavirus

How is coronavirus spread? Like the common cold, coronavirus infection usually occurs through close contact with a person with novel coronavirus via cough and sneezes or hand contact.

Everyone is being reminded to:

- >Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- >Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- >Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- >Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

Changes to our Travel Health Service

From the 1st April 2020 the surgery will no longer offer the Travel Health Advice Service. Travel health isn't part of core NHS services and as a practice we struggle to meet the demands that providing a good travel health service requires. Please use the following website for all up-to-date travel advice: <https://travelhealthpro.org.uk>



I have the run Race for Life every year since 2013. Last year I got all my family involved, my two daughters and three grand daughters, and though it was more of a walk than a run, we all still thoroughly enjoyed it and managed to raise £300 for cancer research. This charity does great work and is important to me since I lost two aunties and my partner to this horrible disease.



Research is also part of what we do here at Ecclesfield, as any of you who have taken part in our studies, will know. We feel it is important work to be involved in and enjoy helping develop new treatments for a variety of conditions, saving lives and improving health outcomes.

This year I will be taking part again. My husband and two son-in-law's will also be joining us, as it is now open to men as well. We hope to be able to raise even more this year and some of us may even run the whole 5k!



Catherine, Research/Practice Nurse

News from our Patient Group...

Ecclesfield Patient Practice Group has been in existence for over 10 years and is dedicated to helping the practice to obtain the best possible service, within the NHS budget and guide lines, possible for its clients.

We are always happy to welcome new members to the group. We meet on average four times a year. These meetings last for approximately one hour. The venue for the meetings alternates between the two surgery sites.

Apart from the normal EPPG activities we raise funds to assist the practice in purchasing equipment not covered by the NHS budget allowance that the practice receives. These funds are obtained by the sale of books, donated cards and hand made donated cards at both surgeries. The cards and books sell for 50p per item and all cards and books must be paid for they are not free. The monies raised from these sales have previously bought children's play stations and baby changing stations at both surgeries, both adult and paediatric oximeters and contributed to the purchase of a personal ECG monitor (The local Jeffcock Trust Charity also helped with the funding of this item). More recently the EPPG contribution of £500.00 bought a specialist cleaner for the consulting room floors. This item of equipment will help to eliminate the chances of any cross contamination in these areas.

We are now in the process of donating £500.00 towards the cost of another personal ECG monitor due to the demands for the use of our existing ones (we are at present the only practice within our area to offer this service). We hope that you will assist our fundraising efforts with purchases of our books and cards so that additional equipment can be bought for both surgeries. If you have any books you would like to donate please drop them into reception at both surgeries.

www.iwantgreatcare.org

NETWORK NORTH work done so far...

SOCIAL PRESCRIBING LINK WORKER

The five practices comprising 'Network North' have for some years been active referrers into Social Prescribing providers. These have included SOAR, Community Support Workers (CSWs), Age UK and MIND.



Under the new Primary Care Network (PCN) DES there is a requirement to have a social prescribing link worker who will co-ordinate all the referrals into any provider of social interventions and ensure the appropriate service undertakes the referral.

They will also co-ordinate responses back to the relevant GP practices. **The service will fully commence in January/February 2020.**

PHARMACY SERVICE

Networks are required to have in place a Pharmacy service as part of the year one development of networks.

Working with Primary Care Sheffield (PCS) who will employ the Pharmacists citywide we have purchased the services of two Pharmacists. One has already started work in all five practices undertaking Medication Review which previously would have needed a GPs input.

Over time the service will expand into a hub and spoke model with a team of Pharmacists working off site undertaking electronic systems update such as medication changes for all our practices and across the city whilst remaining a face to face presence on site.

Much of this work is designed to move services that can be undertaken by a suitably qualified clinician away from the GP to enable them to concentrate on more appropriate care of patients.



DOOR 43 & SHEFFIELD FUTURES

Door 43 is part of Sheffield Futures and offers support to 13-25 year olds on a range of emotional wellbeing issues in a young person centred environment. The service focuses on early intervention and low level support and is not a specialist mental health service.

Through experience of GP signposting patients and families to the services provided by Door 43 we have joined with them in this innovative bid which we hope will be seen as a positive early intervention proposal aimed at 13 to 18 years old children and adolescents.



- Providing social prescribing drop-ins at schools and local community venues.
- Providing GP support and resourcing

The service has been funded on pilot basis for twelve months and will commence in early 2020.



AGE UK AND NURSE DISCHARGE PILOT SCHEME

We are working in partnership with Age UK Sheffield. A member of Age UK Sheffield's team can visit you at home to have a chat and see if there is any support they can offer to help you manage your health and wellbeing at home.

This is a free service and has been designed to help people over the age of 50 to assess if they are eligible for additional benefits that they may be entitled to, to support people to get out more, help manage health and wellbeing, support around the home and with any concerns or priorities with daily living.

Building on the success of this service we have also identified the need for additional resource for those at risk patients who are discharged from hospital care in a non-coordinated manner where it is unclear if support has been put in place and who are not referred to Community Nursing. Often these patients and primary care services are unsure who is expected to provide any support, identifying where support is needed and putting this in place, keeping the patient safe at home and avoiding readmission to Hospital or an A&E attendance.

Additionally and in order to save valuable GP time this pilot service is also used to make home visits to patients who repeatedly ask for a home visit but it is identified that the needs are often social or ones which can be dealt with by Nurses or other support staff. These Outreach Nurses work within our practices and help to support both patients and GPs.

Pilot scheme and current funding runs until June 2020

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