

Carnoustie Medical Group (CMG)

Patient Participation Group (PPG) Meeting held in Parkview Health Centre, on Monday, 26th February, 2018.

Attending : Stuart Anderson (Chair), Lynn McGowan (Business Manager), Ronald Macdonald, Ethel O'Donnell, Isobel Clark, Ken Drysdale, James Collins.

Apologies : No apologies received.

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting by Stuart and Lynn.

Stuart notified the members that unfortunately, Pat Hutcheon had intimated that she would no longer be a member of our Group as she felt it wasn't really for her.

The Minute of the meeting held on 27th November 2017 was read and agreed, proposed by Ethel O'Donnell, seconded by James Collins.

Stuart has been acting as Secretary as well as Chair for the past couple of meetings which is somewhat cumbersome. Ethel agreed to take over the role as Minutes Secretary with James as depute with effect from the next meeting which was unanimously agreed.

Agenda Items :

Staffing : Lynn informed the Group that at present, there was one GP absent from the Practice. Nurse Irene Black retires from the Practice on 27th February 2018 and a post has been advertised for a 'Treatment Room' type nurse to work 30 hours over three or four days. One other member of nursing staff who has been on sick-leave for some time has now begun a phased return to work.

With the new GP contract, it is proposed that an Advanced Nurse Practitioner be employed in each locality to assist with house-calls etc.

GP vacancies are currently being advertised with some interest expressed, and the locality Mental Health Worker funding issue is progressing although slowly.

Vision On-Line and Repeat Prescribing : Vision Registration Forms were issued to the Group members for their information and input. Various views were expressed on potential Data Protection issues this system might raise but as the patient must provide his own username and password on registration with confidential information provided by the Practice to access the site, it would appear secure. Currently, very few appointments are available until the Registration process progresses but to date , patients seem happy with the system.

Admin staffing levels will not be affected by the introduction of the system and the existing appointment options will continue for those without the technology to access Vision.

As yet, we do not know the percentage of Practice patients who have registered.

Lynn will check with Vision as to whether there are any promotional materials to assist in the promotion of the system.

PPG Information Leaflet : Stuart had little to report on the progress of the new leaflet. He had approached the High School to enquire as to whether the design and development of the leaflet might be considered as a project for some of the pupils, but to date, had heard nothing back. The question of funding the project was again raised and Stuart agreed to write to 'Carnoustie Haven' to see if they might be of assistance in this matter and to enquire of Premiere Printworks of Arbroath which are used by both the local WRI and Inner Wheel Clubs, to get approximate costings of an initial run of 300 leaflets.

A.O.C.B. : Ron brought to the attention of the Group a recent report which suggested that the prescribing of Anti-Cholinergic drugs may be linked to Dementia.

Lynn intimated that Jill MacLean the Practice Clinical Pharmacist had Poly-Pharmacy under continual review. The use of these drugs to control involuntary spasm, chronic muscular pain, for example, can be modified by the issue of TENS machines, homeopathic medicines etc. – alternative therapies currently available within the Practice.

Ken indicated that he had joined 'Men's Shed' the aim of which is to promote 'Healthier, Happier, Contented Lives' and as such, having a 'Health' connection, could perhaps be considered under the heading of 'Social Prescribing' and promoted within the Practice.

The ALISS website 'A local Information System for Scotland', enables you to search for local support on housing, health and much more.

Date of Next Meeting : The next meeting of the PPG will be held within the Health Centre on Monday 26th March 2018 at 6PM.