



**Patient Participation Group (PPG) Minutes
Wednesday 11th October 2023, 12.30pm
St Melor House Surgery**

Attendees: Dr Alison Brown, GP Partner St Melor House Surgery
Katheryn Pinner
Caroline Pollard
Jenny Holmes, Assistant Practice Manager, St Melor House Surgery

Apologies: Royston Cox
Janine Neate
Gill McAllister
Dr Monica Devendran, Mayor and Wiltshire Councillor

Staffing and update on surgery services

There have been some recent changes to St Melor House Surgery's staff.

Dr Anthony Ventour left the surgery in August and we are currently using a number of locums to fill these shifts until another permanent GP is found. There is a lack of consistency with locums which can create extra workload for GP Partners.

Our current list size is 6,387, compared to 6,060 on 1st January 2023 and we continue to increase our patient numbers.

We face the same issues that most other GP surgeries face with staffing, lack of space to expand and increased workload pressures.

Flu and covid vaccinations

We have run the majority of our flu and covid clinics and just mopping up now. It has been a very successful campaign with a good uptake, especially in the over 65 cohort.

We are unsure when the next covid vaccination booster will start, possibly Spring24, but to be advised when we have this information.

Prescription availability

Scripts are issued normally on a 28 day issue. We can issue a holiday issue of up to 3 months maximum. Any issues with delivery/dispensing of medication needs to be taken up with patient's pharmacy. The surgery only generates the script for the pharmacy to dispense. We try to get the script issued on the same day as the request, but we do ask to allow 48 hours for any issues. Patients then need to allow time for the pharmacy to dispense it – currently Boots are asking for 7 days to dispense.

For acute medication, please take the script direct to the chemist where they will dispense same day.

Awaiting further details of the possibility of an additional pharmacy in the area.

Any other business

Gill McAlister would like to mention the Get Wiltshire Walking Walking for Health group: We meet every Tuesday at 10 outside Amesbury library where we have 3 different walks to choose from; the starter which is a half an hour slow stroll, the stroller which is an hour or so and about 2.5 to 3 miles and a strider which is 90 minutes and about 4 miles. Everyone gets a bit of exercise and a lot of chat and most of us go for a social coffee afterwards. We do have people referred to us either for the exercise or for their mental health and people find it beneficial. No one has to commit to it, people can come along if they feel like it or not if they don't. It really is a good scheme and it's free!

Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 6th February 2024

Dr A Brown

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