

Grange Road Medical Practice

Minutes of Patient Forum Meeting Held on 1st June 2011

In Attendance:- Dr G Smith, Sally Pern, Peter Gradwell, Emma Foggon, Una Middleton, Beryl Blanks, Martin Mulvaney, Jenny Roberts. Iris Middleton, John Scott

Apologies for absence:- Dane Roberts, Norma Atkinson

1. Emma brought along information on Consultation from the GMC related to prescriptions and how doctors should make decisions on care when resources are limited but the closing date was 3rd June which gave virtually no time to reply. The forum questioned who these had been sent to and how they were distributed and asked that this was relayed back to the GMC. Emma will look into this and report back.
2. Martin discussed the program "A Good Death". Most people would prefer to die at home. There is a lack of talking about death and individual wishes. Most of the resources are targeted at hospitals and not at care in the community. The starting impetus is to get people to talk about dying and where they would prefer to die a good death. This would include wills, death plans, funeral planning (before death). 95% of resources are aimed at cancer patients who account for 20% of deaths. Full support measures include financial, spirituals, medical and social services. Leaflets are available from the Dying Matters website. This is a Cultural issue related to family dynamics and neighbours.
3. Mr Scott has reviewed and changed the A&E poster to move away from the cost emphasis to persuade people to use the A&E for true emergencies only and to use Walking Centres for other issues. The Walking Centres need to standardise for opening times and when Doctors are in attendance. The Forum agreed they would write to the PCT regarding this matter
4. The Patient Forum has a new letterhead which will be used when sending letters to relevant parties.
5. The way patient surveys are to be done has changed again and there is a new Patient Participation Direct Enhanced Service coming out that the Practice will sign up to and they will need the support from the Patient Forum to analyse the data, review the action plan and comment on the findings.
6. Dr Stadward is taking up a post with another practice in Gateshead. The Practice have advertised for a GP to work 1 day per week plus Monday afternoons and interviews are planned for 7th July 2011.
7. Local engagement board meeting dates are:-
Thursday 14th July 2011, 10.00 to 12.30 at Stonehills, Pelaw.
Wednesday 21st September 2011, 10.00 to 12.30 at Stonehills, Pelaw.
Tuesday 22nd November 2011 10.00 to 12.30 at Caedmon Hall
If anyone would like to attend please do so and could they report back to the group.
8. The Stroke Association raised £22.50. We now have a charity box on reception for Mending Broken Hearts Appeal for the British Heart Foundation

AOB

9. Dane Roberts sent a message to say he was due to hand over a copy of the Save our NHS petition obtained by 38degrees to our MP, Mr. Dave Anderson. This is to be done at his office at 2pm on Monday 6th June 2011. Supporters welcome. 38 degrees is an organisation that organises e-petitions. This petition, which had to be filled in on line at stood at over 400,000 signatures. The Practice Manager will forward

the email address to patients, staff and other Practice Managers to see if they want to sign up.

10. As mentioned in previous meetings the Practice staff were going to be TUPED across to the South Tyneside Foundation but this has changed and the Practice will be put out to tender in the next 18 months. This may lead to the practice being able to submit a tender to take on the practice but we will know more nearer the time. The Department of Health have produced a document on the 'Right to Provide' but it was felt that the correspondence from the PCT wouldn't allow the Practice to do this.

Please could you let the practice know if this is inconvenient and the date could be rearranged?

Next Meeting Wednesday 31st August 2011 at 6.15pm.

Diary Dates:

Wednesday 16th November 2011 at 6.15pm