



Carden Medical Centre

August 2007 Newsletter

New Computer System

NHS Grampian has recently approved the change over of our clinical computer system from GPASS to Vision. Vision is being rolled out to GP Practices in Grampian who have opted to change, on a phased basis. The date we have been given for our changeover or 'go-live' as it is being called is 26th September 2007. In order to do this, we need your help and patience during the changeover period, which will last about a week. Unfortunately, there will be a certain amount of disruption before and after 'go-live' date which we will try to keep to a minimum. We will be only able to use our existing clinical system for reference during this time. Please don't be concerned as the doctor or nurse you are seeing will still have access to your medical history and any new information will be saved for insertion into your record when the new system is fully operational. The following measures have been put in place to minimise the disruption to patients during the period 17th September to 01st October 2007.

- Patients will be unable to pre-book appointments between 17th & 28th September.
- If you require an appointment please call on the day that you require it during this two week period as all appointments the doctors have will be bookable on the day.
- After we have switched to the new system, you will be able to pre-book appointments as usual



Welcome Back

We welcome back Dr. Valerie Steven from maternity leave on 17th September 2007, unfortunately this means we have to say good-bye to Dr. Tom Kirkpatrick and Dr. Kate Findlay who were covering for Dr. Steven during her absence. We thank them for all they contributed during their time with us and wish them well in the future.

Goodbyes

We also say good-bye to Mrs. Arlene Butler one of our receptionists who has retired. . Arlene was with the practice for almost 6 years and we wish her well.

One of our nurses, Rachel Leslie is moving to pastures new on 7th September 2007. We congratulate Rachel on securing the position of Practice Nurse with Woodside Medical Group and wish her luck in her new post.

Change of Personal Details

We would request that patients advise us of any change to their name, address or telephone numbers as soon as they possibly can. Practitioner Services Division (PSD) is responsible for monitoring GP practice lists and regularly send letters to patients. If the letters they send are returned from the address they have on their system, we are sent a list and asked to confirm by contacting the patient whether we are still responsible for them. If you have changed your details and we are unable to contact you, we cannot confirm that you have not left the practice and PSD will automatically remove you from our list. This has caused problems for us in the past as patients who have enjoyed good health and have not contacted the surgery recently, but have changed their details and not advised us, cannot be contacted and have been removed for our list. The patient has then required an appointment only to find that they are no longer on the list. We do not allow patients to be removed from our list lightly, but if we have not means of making contact with you, we cannot be sure that you have not moved abroad. So we would be most grateful if you could advise us, by phone, letter or in person of any change of contact details, including other members of your family. Thank you for your co-operation.



Advance notification

I know it is still summer, (allegedly!) but I would like to take this opportunity to give you a quick reminder that flu vaccination time will soon be upon us again. We will be holding clinics in October/November at Carden House and will put posters in the waiting room and slips in with repeat prescriptions to advise of the times and dates of the clinics. If you are in any of the following groups, you are entitled to a free flu vaccination.

Flu Vaccinations

Your are eligible for a flu vaccination if you:

are over 65

have a health condition such as:

- respiratory disease, including asthma
- diabetes
- a chest or kidney condition
- chronic liver disease
- chronic renal disease
- or heart disease

are the main carer for someone who is elderly or disabled.

Please keep an eye on the notice board, as letters will not be sent out from the practice to patients this year.

Lorraine McKenna
Business Manager