

Leven & Beeford Medical Practice

Patient Participation Group Meeting

Wednesday 20th September 2023 1pm Beeford Surgery

Staff Members Present

Terri Wardell (TW)

Apologies: Dr R Chapman, Andrea Moulds, Jean Barney, Graham Scott, Maz Khuri, James & Patricia Garvey, Gill Cuthbertson, Mags Varey, Elisabeth Denton, Jan Jagger, Paul Linsner, Ann Megias, Jacqueline Bonnell, Michael Firth, Philip Meadley, Linds Edmond, Diane Ward, Diane Baker, Carole Ramsay, Sue Andrews, Richard Hirst

Attendees: Caron Power, Ann Underwood, Christine Youngs, Jo Watkinson, Claire Scott, M Beckett, Beverley Marchant, Chris Havler, Janet Rose, Peter Hesse, Christine Gregory, Rosie Atkin, Marlen Silk, Jennifer Lewis

Introduction

TW thanked everyone for coming. Explained that she had asked for numbers to gauge whether Beeford waiting room would be big enough as the patient groups in the past had always been held in the practice. There was just enough room for patients to fit in.

Flu clinics

TW informed the group there had been a flu clinic last Saturday at Leven, with further clinics planned for Saturday 23rd September at Leven, Saturday 30th September at Beeford and Saturday 14th October at Leven. There would also be the option for patients to book in at other times and to have them opportunistically whilst in the surgery. The Over 50's are no longer eligible unless they have an underlying condition. The flu programme we take part in is for over 65's, 6mths -64 with an underlying health condition (there is a list of criteria) and 2-3 year old nasal flu's. Other school age children are given their vaccination at the school. Patient group advised putting the flu clinic dates on the website.

Covid vaccinations

TW explained that the practice will be giving the Covid vaccination to the housebound and care home residents and staff but anyone else eligible would need to phone 119 or book via the national booking service.

Patients suggested that a message is put onto Facebook advising patients how to get their vaccination.

Shingles vaccination

TW had been asked to inform patients about the changes to the shingles programme. TW read out the following information from NHS.uk website:

Eligibility:

People who turn 65 on or after 1 September 2023

From 1 September 2023, you're eligible for the shingles vaccine when you turn 65.

You'll be offered 2 doses of the vaccine. These are given between 6 and 12 months apart.

You'll remain eligible until your 80th birthday.

Information:

If you turned 65 before 1 September 2023, you'll be eligible for the shingles vaccine when you turn 70.

Everyone aged 70 to 79 is eligible for the shingles vaccine.

Depending on the type of vaccine you have, you'll have either 1 dose or 2 doses (given between 6 and 12 months apart).

Contact your GP surgery if you missed your vaccine. You're eligible up until your 80th birthday.

You're eligible for the shingles vaccine if you're aged 50 or over and you're at higher risk from shingles because you have a severely weakened immune system.

This includes:

- some people with blood cancer (such as leukaemia or lymphoma)
- some people with HIV or AIDS
- some people who've recently had a stem cell transplant, radiotherapy, chemotherapy or an organ transplant
- people taking certain medicines that severely weaken the immune system

You'll be given 2 doses of the shingles vaccine. These are given between 8 weeks and 6 months apart.

Autumn Newsletter

TW explained that historically she would produce a newsletter every season and was conscious that the Autumn newsletter was normally done by now, advertising the flu clinics. Some of the members asked where this was placed as they had never seen it in the past and TW explained it is printed out and put in both waiting rooms and also available via the website. Discussed previous ideas of appropriate recipes / specific walks being written about. One patient suggested a different Topic to focus on in each edition, such as Mental Health etc. TW will get the newsletter sent out by the end of next week.

Some patients didn't visit the practice and some were unaware we had a newsletter or a website so wondered about advertising this more in some of the locally available magazines – Leven Life (quarterly), Beeford Buzz (quarterly), Brandesburton Buzz (Quarterly) and Skirlaugh magazine (monthly). TW explained that the practice already has a **quarterly** advert in Leven Life at a cost of £30 each **quarter** and so would need to be careful about the cost. AU mentioned that instead of an advert being put in, could do an 'editorial piece about the practice' which would be free of charge. AU offered to write an article and send it to TW for approval. One patient suggested a notice board be put up outside both surgeries so patients who don't visit often are kept up to date with important information.

Remembrance Day

TW stated that as a Veteran Friendly practice, last year we had Royal British Legion poppies at Leven. We are looking for the same again but to have patient volunteers stand at a table with the poppies on Friday 10th November. If anyone is interested, TW asks for patients to mark against their name on the signing in sheet.

Care Navigation

Patients discussed the changes to the booking system, following on from what was discussed at the previous meeting by TW and Dr RC. Some patients concerned about being asked the reason for the appointment but TW explained why this was required. One patient thought it would be a good idea to advertise what confidentiality training / care navigation training the staff have undertaken. Another patient suggested that Peter Levy at Look North be contacted to help spread the word about the changes across the country.

Date of next meeting: TBA