



"The relationship between the patient and the Social Prescriber is the key to success"

For an initial appointment a Social Prescriber can spend up to an hour with an individual patient. This length of time enables both the prescriber and the patient gain a real insight into what may be troubling them. Patients will normally have further follow-up appointments with the Prescriber. The whole process is very much a "team effort" between the Social Prescriber and patient, as it is the patient who decides what help they can or cannot accept and what steps they are ready or not ready to take. Individuals with mental health issues can be helped both emotionally and practically. In one example a patient had help to manage his emotions and to obtain a bus-pass! A referral to a Social Prescriber may bring many benefits:

- 1. The patient may find a solution to something which has been troubling them.
- 2. The solution may lead to a noticeable improvement in their physical and mental health
- 3. The GP can use their medical skills on those patients in need of their clinical expertise.

You can contact the Social prescribing team via the online form available via practice websites – or ask on the phone for an appointment or referral. We are here to help! If you would like to find out more about your Patient participation group (PPG) please fill in the link on your practice website and we will be in touch. It's a great way to stay touch with your practice and influence how healthcare will be delivered in the future. We will make the link for this newsletter available on our websites and via practice Facebook pages.

Hello and welcome to the Modality AWC patient newsletter! We're thrilled to bring you valuable insights into social prescribing, an innovative approach to healthcare that's making a real difference in our community. Dive in, learn, and discover how social prescribing can empower you on your journey to better health and well-being.



Your social prescribing team – Winners 2023 Bradford Act as One awards Primary care team of the year

Tessa Mounsey our PPG chair was keen to learn about Social Prescribing. We arranged for her to meet one of the award winning Social Prescribers to find out more.....

Social prescribing is different from medical help and advice provided by the doctors at your surgery. It is not always obvious that the patient may need help from a non-medical professional as they may be suffering from physical symptoms which leads them to consult a doctor in the first place. However, the consultation with the GP may reveal the patient is struggling with problems in their life and which are having an effect on their health. Then the patient may be referred to a Social Prescriber for further help. It is important the patient understands and agrees to each step in this process.

Studies over the last 10 years have shown that up to 30% of GP consultations may be for an underlying non-medical issue. The range of problems a social prescriber might help with is wide, covering amongst other things, isolation and anxiety, debt management, benefit claims together with nutrition and lifestyle, family issues and low level mental health such as anxiety. Modality has Social Prescribing help available at each of their surgeries. Their local knowledge of sources of help for their patients in their communities is very comprehensive and their dedication to patient care meant they won a Bradford wide award last year!

This newsletter has been produced in partnership with our PPG and special thanks to the PPG chair Tessa Mounsey one of our patients. More information on the PPG is available on your practice website.