

The Patient Participation Group
Major Oak Medical Practice

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

In this report I am giving you an outline of our activities since the last AGM which was held in 2022.

Your PPG has continued its work in acting as a critical friend. It has offered constructive criticism to the practice, and it supported communication between the Major Oak Surgery staff, other community health organisations and patients, to help those patients use the surgery facilities to the best advantage.

During the Covid pandemic, and for a while afterwards, our meetings had to take place virtually which, whilst far from ideal, enabled a worthwhile degree of communication to take place. Since then, our meetings have been face-to-face, but we have retained the Teams option for members and patients who needed to join the meeting remotely.

The PPG is constantly looking at ways to improve communications and provide information to patients and, to this aim, it invites members of the practice staff, both clinical, reception and administrators to our meetings to exchange views and ideas.

Patients can now follow surgery news on the practice Facebook Page and our virtual PPG patients are invited to submit helpful suggestions for the efficient running of the surgery. We also have a dedicated email address for patients to contact us directly.

In addition to its articles for Edwinstowe Village News, the PPG has published items in the Roundabout magazine, The Wellow Warbler and Sherwood Life. These publications cover areas that have Major Oak patients. Social media has also been used wherever appropriate.

Members of your PPG attended events organised by various healthcare organisations and providers, particularly the Community Voluntary Service. This enabled us to learn about what services are available to our patients and the community. As a result, the Practice has hosted interactive health talks for its patients and families and, recently, talks regarding dementia. Last week, we held the first of our schedule of interactive CPR demonstrations. There will be further events in the forthcoming months.

The PPG has also participated in various networking sessions on a regional, and local basis.

In recent years, students have made valuable contributions to our discussions and have brought a younger perspective to our meetings. We have been pleased to provide a volunteer certificate to students from the Integrated Care Board and the PPG. These are valuable for students to use with their personal statements for university applications or to add to a CV. We seek to recruit more sixth form students as the last one left recently for university.

The PPG continues to review action points which appear on each meeting agenda and minutes. This has proved very successful in helping to achieve our aims. Wherever possible, individual members of the PPG 'champion' projects from start to completion.

The Major Oak surgery is now part of the Sherwood Primary Care Network with the aim of working together with six other GP practices in the same network, made up of over 60,000 patients; as well as community, mental health, social care, pharmacies, hospitals, and voluntary services. The PPG expects that this will stimulate much discussion at future meetings.

PPG members have attended some flu jab clinics this Autumn to provide refreshments and the opportunity for some patients to catch up with friends and acquaintances.

I would like to thank the members of the PPG for the work they have done over the past year.

Clive Parkin. PPG Chair
21st October 2023

