



# PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP NEWSLETTER

## AUTUMN 2019



### Death Matters Are we ready?

Over the last few years the 'Dying Matters' Campaign has challenged us all to answer a question 'What can we do?' how can we help ourselves, or families and our communities face up to death and bereavement.

**Are we ready?** Is a question that challenges each of us on several levels. Are we ready for our own deaths, or the deaths of those we care about? This is a practical question – wills, funeral planning, organ donation and planning our future care? How to do we start that conversation?

Wolstanton Medical Surgery are involved in a pilot using a document called Ceilings of Care. This document allows the patient to have more of an understanding of the types of treatment they may want or not, when their health deteriorates towards end of life. It enables patients to make decisions which are documented and kept in the home for all healthcare professionals to ensure they uphold the patients last wishes.

For more information go to [www.dyingmatters.org](http://www.dyingmatters.org)



### FLU VACCINATION

*Have you had yours?*

Flu clinics are being held on the following dates:

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October – Eligible pts**  
**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Eligible pts**  
**8.00-10.30am**

We only have a limited number of flu vaccinations for **under 65 year olds**. Please ensure you book an appointment to guarantee getting protected.

### Academic General Practice (AGP)

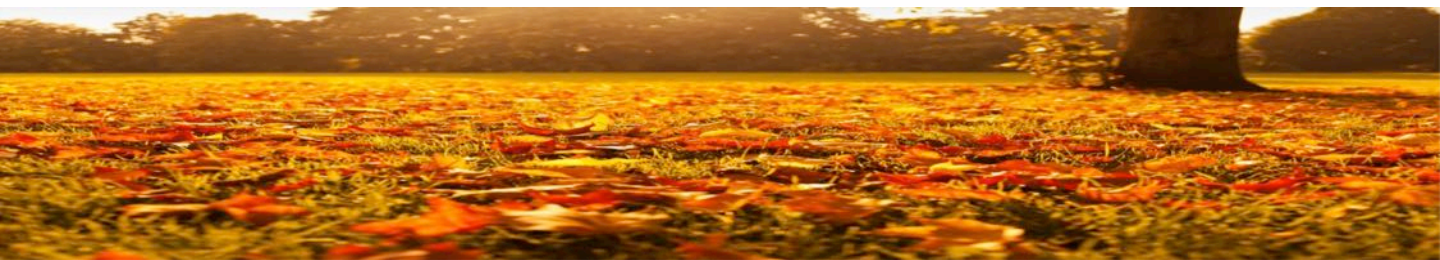
The Status Quo study starts on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September and runs for 3 weeks.

All patients over the age of 10 years using the check-in screen will be asked if they are a carer. This is to help raise awareness about carers and also capture data on the number of carers in North Staffordshire and if they receive any support.

If you would like to know more about research, we are setting up a new Research PPG, if you are interested in joining please drop us an email to;

[academicgp.wolstanton@keele.ac.uk](mailto:academicgp.wolstanton@keele.ac.uk)

**Thanks for your participation!**



Why not join Wolstanton's Patient Participation Group (PPG)?

Meetings take place every other month and all patients are welcome!

Complete a PPG Contact Slip for more info or email [carrie.stockley@nhs.net](mailto:carrie.stockley@nhs.net)

### What's new?

*Dr Rebecca Hall has had a baby boy! I hope you will all join us in wishing her a wonderful welcome to motherhood.*

*Dr Starla Yarde has returned from maternity leave and is working Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.*

*Dr Tressie Chapman started with the Practice in September. She is a permanent salaried GP and will be working Tuesday – Friday.*



This season our PPG Group have been finding out about...

### CareLink

**Do you know someone who struggles with the effects of loneliness and isolation? You can change someone's life just by saying 'hello'! 225,000 older people won't speak to anyone this week. One in five of us say that we are lonely some or all of the time. Loneliness can be more damaging than obesity or even smoking 15 cigarettes a day and it can happen to any of us, even if we are surrounded by people. Care Link is a service that supports over 65s in Stoke on Trent and North Staffordshire who are struggling with the effects of loneliness and isolation. They provide 'keep in touch' phone calls, welfare checks, home visits, social activities and day trips to local attractions.**

**To find out more call 01782 810320 or email [carelink@salbox.org.uk](mailto:carelink@salbox.org.uk)**

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a Keele University Academic General Practice

