Minutes of the PPG Meeting Held at Haughton Thornley Medical Centre, Thornley Street, Hyde 11 March 2010

Present:

Bill Burgoine (Chairman)
Dorothy Burgoine
Margaret Rickson
Alan Yates
Yvonne Bennett
Delia Hulme
Gill Anderton
Margaret Unwin

Patrick Jordan (Practice Manager)
Dr Forida Abdullah
Dr Lisa Gutteridge
Dr Amir Hannan
Dr Gyan Singh

Apologies:

Claire Kenyon, Sheila Caldecott

1. Welcome & Apologies:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially new members. In particular he welcomed Dr Abdullah our new member of the GP team to the meeting, and took the opportunity to thank Dr Singh before his retirement at the end of this month for all his work in the Practice.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes were agreed as being correct.

3. Actions from previous meeting:

Emails have now been sent to all schools and colleges in the area thanking them if their students took part in the 'teen survey'. Details for results and links were also passed on to them. A head teacher of a primary school, outside the area, has invited Dr Hannan to speak to the final year pupils about the results

Members requested the facility for online booking of nurse appointments. Patrick Jordan, as Practice Manager, pointed out that this was difficult especially for Phlebotomist appointments as some of these needed to 'fast', before the event. Also blood tests need to be sanctioned by a doctor. Members appreciated this and agreed to leave booking online appointments to doctors consultations only. However, this will be reviewed. There is still a problem with Patients booking appointments and failing to attend. This is with all bookings - online, personal and telephone bookings.

4. Update on Practice Newsletter & card:

Members were impressed with the news letter and card (not to mention the work involved) which will be for each household. The card was thought to be particularly useful as this could be kept either in a purse/wallet or next to the household phone. The Chairman suggested that a quote for colour versions being obtained with the possibility of the PPG being able to obtain funding for this. It was also felt that these would also help in respect with patients filling out questionnaires on the Practice as to the services available, especially if they rarely or never attend. A staggering 2,000 appointments are available each week across the board (includes all types of appointments and both Practices).

5. Health Promotion Room:

At the moment there are problems with the room which means meetings cannot be arranged for the time being. The matter is being dealt with and then health meetings will resume.

6. Integrated Care Pathway

NHS Tameside & Glossop (the old PCT) are taking part in the initiative to put people at the centre of providing care closer to the patient's home. The scheme is being piloted initially in Hyde and Dukinfield. It will be focusing on reducing CVD (cardiovascular disease) including heart disease and stokes. This is looking at people who are 'at risk' through risk assessments screens, developing personal care plans and self-care plans etc. There will be various promotions. Thornley House, as usual, will be doing all they can for the benefit of their patients. Patients are encouraged to participate if they are part of the 'at risk' group. Health information is always available on the Practice web-site including an excellent 'Self-care' page.

7. Fibromyalgia update

Although Claire was unable to attend she sent a report to the group. Claire has now obtained an email address and mobile number for the site. Claire feels it would be good to set up a meeting or have a chat with Moya Berry who is interested in the group to talk about how we go forward with the initiative and what format she feels will work given her experience in the NHS. Members have suggested that she goes ahead and arrange this. The PPG and Claire will then arrange for a letter to be given by the doctors to all patients with Fibromyalgia. Success of the group will depend on the number who respond.

8. Where do we go next...?

Two members have agreed to attend the Healthcare Informatics Congress 2010 (HC2010) in Birmingham in April on behalf of the PPG. They will report on this at the next meeting.

Other suggestions include talks by the Social Prescribing team (previously known as CORA), Social Services RIQ (really important questions), LINk (Local Involvement Network) and 'End of Life Pathway'. Patrick will contact Cora to see if there is a possibility of a representative attend the next PPG meeting to advise the group.

9. AOB

Alan Yates informed the group that Christie Institute is to open a new radiotherapy centre for breast and prostate cancer at Oldham Hospital. Later there will be one at Salford. Alan will also be making a video with Dr Hannan about prostate cancer and wishes to include his personal story. We look forward to this new video once the problem with the Health Promotion Room has been rectified.

The next meeting is to be held:
Thursday 13 May 2010 at 2.00pm
Thornley House Medical Centre
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