

RWT PCN NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN/WINTER 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

INTRODUCTION FROM
DR OLOMOLAIYE

NAME CHANGE

GMS CONTRACT
MERGER UPDATE

AVOID WAITING ON
THE PHONE

VACCINATIONS

DIGITAL SUPPORT
WORKSHOPS

NEW LEAD FOR OUT OF
HOSPITAL SERVICES

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

BLOOD TESTS AT THE
MANDER CENTRE

CHRISTMAS OPENING
TIMES

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE
TO SEE MORE OF?

WELCOME

Welcome to this season's edition of the RWT PCN newsletter. I love this time of year! What makes it special is that there are so many opportunities to be together with others and celebrate community. As a PCN we want the community we serve to be at the heart of what we do. There are a number of steps that we are taking to make this a reality.

In October we had our first PCN fundraising event led by our assistant practice manager at Warstones surgery, Hayleigh Griffiths. The generosity shown by many of you meant that we were able to raise nearly £2,000 for the Dementia Unit at New Cross Hospital. We hope that this fundraising event proves to be the first of many held by our PCN – if you have any ideas for our next event, please do get in touch!

Putting community at the heart of what we do means making changes to give you more of a voice and understand your needs better. We have a number of projects ongoing in the PCN where we are looking to improve how you access healthcare and empower you to self-manage your health. You can be part of helping shape these changes by joining our patient participation groups (PPGs) and so if you aren't already part of one at your GP practice, please contact us.

Getting vaccinated is a really important part of protecting our community. We've contacted our patients that are eligible for vaccination against flu and Covid-19 and so if you haven't had them already, please don't delay in contacting our vaccination centre to grab your jabs.

We hope you've been able to find time to enjoy being with others this winter – happy holidays!



*Dr Bukola Olomolaiye
GP and Deputy Clinical Director*

NAME CHANGE

Following on from the contract merger, between Penn Manor, Alfred Squire, Oxley, Warstones and West Park surgeries earlier this year, we were made aware that these practices were listed under Penn Manor Medical Practice on patient records and text messages. In response to feedback from patients who found this confusing, we made the decision to rename the contract 'RWT Practices'. Please be assured the name of your GP practice has and will not change.



UPDATE: GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES CONTRACT MERGER

As mentioned in our last newsletter, two of our PCN practices (Lea Road Medical Practice and Tettenhall Road Medical Practice) expressed an interest in joining the RWT Practices single contract. We are pleased to inform you that this has now been approved by the Black Country Integrated Care Board (ICB) and will allow greater efficiencies and improved patient choice across the network.



There will be no direct changes to where you receive care, your practice opening times etc.

You may notice that messages you receive from the practice in 2024 are signed off from 'RWT Practices' rather than your individual practice - this will be the only difference.

AVOID WAITING ON THE PHONE

Need to get in touch with your GP practice but want to avoid waiting on the phone?



You can request non-urgent appointments, prescriptions, sick/fit notes, test results and more by using Patient Triage - just visit our website:

www.rwtprimarycare.nhs.uk, find your GP practice and then click 'submit a new request' from the front page.

This service is available 24/7 and you will receive a response within two working days.

PROTECT YOURSELF, FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Flu vaccinations are available at your practice until March if you are:

- aged 65 years or over
- pregnant
- a child of a certain age
- living in a residential or nursing home
- the main carer of an older or disabled person
- living with someone who has lowered immunity due to disease or treatment
- a frontline health or social care worker



Book your appointment to help protect yourself, friends and family now. You should have received a text message

from us with a link to book.

You might have also seen shingles vaccines being advertised recently – there is a gradual rollout so we will be in touch if you're eligible.

Call our PCN Nurse Support Team on 01902 229050 if you require more information or would like to book in or visit [NHS.uk](https://www.nhs.uk) for more information.

MMR VACCINES FOR CHILDREN

Parents and carers in Wolverhampton are being reminded to ensure their children are vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR).

Symptoms of measles include:

- a high fever
- rash
- cough
- runny nose
- watery eyes.



Parents who are unsure if their child is up-to-date with all their routine vaccinations should check their child's Red Book (personal child health record), the NHS App, or contact their GP practice.

For more information on the MMR vaccine, visit [NHS.uk](https://www.nhs.uk).

DIGITAL SUPPORT WORKSHOPS

We are working with a local community funded organisation: BME United, to help offer core skills for our patients such as digital skills,

improving strength, balance and flexibility and more.

If you want to take part in one of their six-week workshops, please contact BME United on 01902 772 600 or email enquiries@bmeunitedltd.co.uk

NEW LEAD FOR OUT OF HOSPITAL SERVICES

We are pleased to introduce the newly appointed Lead Advanced Clinical Practitioner for Out of Hospital Services, Kim Allen, who has joined our PCN and Adult Community Services as of 1st November. Kim joins with a wealth of experience across community, primary care, rehab and acute services and will lead the advanced practice remit within our PCN, including the Enhanced Health in Care Homes and GP Home Visiting model, alongside the Non-Medical Prescribing agenda. I am sure you will all extend a warm welcome to Kim as she gets to know our staff and services.



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

The death of a loved one can turn your life upside down.

Everybody's experience of grief can be different, but many find that talking can help. We know that Christmas can be a difficult time of year for many and so we wanted to let you know that our RWT bereavement nurses and Compton Care are here to listen. Visit [Compton Care](https://www.comptoncare.co.uk) for more information.



BLOOD TESTS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE MANDER CENTRE

Did you know that we now offer blood tests at the Mander Centre on Tuesdays? Yes, that's right, we have added another venue to the list to try and make access as easy as possible. Next time you book your blood test, you will see the Mander Centre listed as an option via [Simply Book](#).



CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

Our practice will be closed on the following bank holidays:

- Monday 25 December 2023
- Tuesday 26 December 2023
- Monday 1 January 2024

If you need to see a GP urgently over the festive period, you can visit Unity, based at Pennfields Health Centre during the below dates and times:

- Monday 25 December 2023
9am-12noon
- Tuesday 26 December 2023
9am-4pm
- Sunday 31 December 2023
8am-2pm
- Monday 1 January 2024
9am-4pm

Call 01902 446688 to book an appointment.

If you're unwell/require medical assistance but you're not sure who to contact, think 'NHS 111', ring 111 or [visit 111 online](#).



SPOTLIGHT ON YOU! WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MOVING FORWARD?



We want to know what you would like to see in future newsletters and what you would find useful?

Please let us know if there's certain services or specific information you'd like to know more about. Just email rwh-tr.primarycare@nhs.net

HOW YOU RECEIVE OUR UPDATES

How do you prefer to receive updates? Want to receive your newsletter via email or text? Give your GP practice a call and let us know. You can also find out more information about our services: www.rwtprimarycare.nhs.uk

Follow our Primary Care Network (PCN) on social media



Keep up-to-date with our latest news and events



on Twitter @RWT_PCN



on Facebook @RWTPCN



on Instagram @RWT_PCN

Merry Christmas