

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP
CHEVIOT PRIMARY CARE CENTRE

Minutes of meeting held on 1 September 2015.

PRESENT: Rosanna Reed (Chair), Sue Wade, Caroline Douglas (PM), Mike Allport, Jan Clucas, Teresa Culbertson, Christine Short, Bob Maddox

- 1 Minute Taker – Sue Wade
- 2 Apologies – Lorna Moore
- 3 RR read out the minutes of the meeting 2 June 2015, they were agreed and signed.
- 4 Matters Arising – CD reported that Wrist splints expenditure was not coming out of Doctors Fund now. Health Trainers were now holding clinics every 2 weeks. Flyers for PPG are now in circulation.
- 5 Dr Lambourn arrived at 4.30. RR listed items for discussion.
Use of Minor Injuries unit instead of going to GP – more education of costings needed for patients. CD receives list of any of Wooler patients who use this service rather than go to GP. CD can access information from RAIDAR on which our patients are accessing this service rather than seeing our GPs. Costs are £45 to see Doctor, £65-81 to go to Minor Injuries Unit. It was agreed that this information should be listed in the Waiting Room to inform patients.
Blue Print for General Practice – Dr Lambourn gave a short talk on the Royal College of General Practitioners Blue Print, which covers the next 5 years. He explained he had particular interest in this, and was much involved. He Chairs the North East Faculty, and is a member of the RCGP Rural Forum. RCGP has 50,000 members and is non-political. They initially set up ‘Put Patients First’ Campaign throughout UK, there were 300,000 signatures on the petition.
An additional 8,000 GP’s are needed in England. There is a low number of recruits to GP training programmes. Retention is difficult as more GP’s are retiring early, they are trying to make it easier for GPs to return after a break. 7.8% of NHS budget covers General Practice and one of the aims of the blueprint is to increase this back to 11% (which it was several years ago).
Rural practices have to be subsidized, but some are unable to carry on – eg. Harbottle. RCGP is trying to find ways to free up administration work so doctors can see more patients; and also try to make more use of nurses, paramedics in their particular expertise. They are also trying to improve premises as many are not up to standard. This Blue Print began in May 2015. Dr Lambourn explained that the cost of seeing each patient has so many variables, it is difficult to actually state a cost. Actual cost of face to face gp consultations is around £45 compared to a range of £61 to £82 for a comparable secondary care attendance.
RR suggested that information re costs of appointments, and missed appointments and going to A&E should be put on general website.

There appears to be some confusion over the proposed use of different medication for the same problem. More information required.

It was agreed that it was too late to do a Health Awareness stall at Wooler Fair/Wooler Show this year.

6. CCG Testing Panel Workshop - RR reported that she met up with an excellent group of people including physios, radiographers etc. who discussed 7-day week working – some were for, and some against.
7. Inclusion in next Meeting - CD suggested that a representative from 111 might be asked to come and talk to us – she would contact Alan Bell. More consideration on possible use of Social Media/Facebook/NHS Choices/Friends & Family.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 24 November 4pm.