

NEWSLETTER

The Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice

Sixpenny Handley Surgery
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Doves Meadow Surgery
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The Care Quality Commission

The commission visited the **District Nursing** team earlier this year. It takes a minimum of ten weeks for the final report to arrive but it has now and you will be very pleased (but not surprised I am sure) that they were rated as Good.

The Practice is still waiting for an initial report following our inspection in September. Thank you to all of you who spoke with an inspector. They were impressed by your responses and I am sure that helped them to get a better overall picture of the Practice. They picked up on some issues and we are working to put those right. None of them concern the clinical care you receive which is reassuring. As soon as we know more we will update you.

Christmas Closing

All Saints Day is scarcely over and already we are having to think about Christmas. In particular we would like to draw your attention to which days we are closed which are:-

Friday 25th December Christmas Day
Monday 28th December Boxing Day
Friday 1st January New Year's Day

We are conscious that Broad Chalke surgery will also be closed as normal on the Wednesday and so between Christmas and New Year will only be open on the Tuesday and Thursday. If you need to collect medication during that week please bear this in mind when planning what you need to order and when over the festive season.

We wish everyone a joyful and peaceful Christmas

Comings and Goings

Over the next few months a number of reception staff will be either retiring or moving away. This will entail a shift in some of our roles and you can expect to see new faces at the desk. I am sure that they will settle in quickly but please be patient with them especially in their first few weeks.

Latest Government Initiative

The Department of Health has stipulated that from next March all patients should have a named GP. They hope that by doing this patients will be reassured that there is someone at the Practice who has overall responsibility for their health. By doing this it is thought that there will be less chance of differing opinion creating delays in treatment, or worse still falling completely through the net. This doesn't change the way that you can get an appointment to see a GP, nor will it stop you seeing a different GP on different occasions. If you would like to know who your named GP is please ask when you are next contacting the surgery. The receptionists will be able to tell you. If you would rather have someone else, then please drop us a brief note stating your name, date of birth, first line of address and who you would like as your named GP. We will amend your records accordingly.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Sixpenny Handley Dispensary 01725 552589 (12 – 3pm)

District Nurses 01725 552792

Out of Hours 111

Useful web sites

www.sixpennydocs.co.uk The Practice website

www.nhs.uk NHS Choices – a web site for health advice

www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk – for travellers