



Orchard Surgery Patient Participation Group

Summer 2023 Newsletter

Welcome to the new Orchard Surgery PPG Newsletter in which we will keep you up to date with developments in local healthcare as well as what is happening at the surgery and other matters of general interest. The role of the PPG includes facilitating good relations between the practice and patients by communicating patient experience, interests and concerns and providing feedback to the practice on current procedures and proposed new developments.

New faces in surgery

Dr Kimberley Botha (GP)
George Murray (Paramedic Practitioner/ACP)
Lisa Wilkinson (Paramedic Practitioner/ACP)
Natalya Couper (Nurse)
Laura Davy (Nurse)
Bonnie Bradford (Deputy Practice Manager)

In addition, several clinical staff employed by our PCN (Horsham Central) who work across four practices.

Headlines

- At the beginning of 2023, new clinicians joined the Orchard Surgery Team
- Update on latest working practices
- FLU vaccination programme to restart
- Role of Primary Care Network (PCN)
- New surgery phone system live, with many new features including callback.

Winter Flu Vaccinations

It is planned that winter flu vaccinations will be available again at Orchard Surgery – dates to be advised

Dementia Friendly Surgery

Orchard Surgery has been certified as a Dementia Friendly Surgery 2023 by the Alzheimer's Society.

Latest working practices in the surgery

Although historically a GP has been the first person you see for clinical diagnosis/treatment, more and more non-GP staff are being trained to diagnose, treat and prescribe without the need to refer to a GP although they can obtain advice and support from the GP team if required on the day. These include in-house Paramedics, Advanced Clinical Practitioners (ACPs), Clinical Pharmacists.

The surgery's Care Navigators' role is to ensure you see the right person as quickly as possible either face to face in the surgery, by telephone call or a home visit for the housebound.

Primary care networks

PCN's are groupings of local GP practices, typically serving populations of 50,000. Orchard is part of the Horsham Central PCN together with Park, Holbrook and Riverside surgeries. They are funded by NHS England to develop collaborative new ways of working including Clinical Pharmacy, Social Prescribing, Physiotherapy. See www.horshamcentralpcn.co.uk for more info

PPG news

Now that COVID is causing less problems, the PPG will reinstate the various events we used to hold including surgery visits.

Carol Carpenter and Adrian Brown (chair) have joined the Committee.

Together with the PCN we helped to raise £315 for the Alzheimer's Society with a cake sale and raffle