

Patient Participation Meeting

2nd September 2021 6.30pm-8pm via Zoom

Present: Wayne Penegar (WP) Chair, Lynsey Buckles (LB)-Mins, AM, IP, WPr, JB, GN, SP

Virtual Member: SSB, LN

Apologies: SP, all GP's

Discussion	Action
Matters Arising	
All actions completed from previous minutes	
Today's Discussion	
<p>Agenda had not been able to be confirmed ahead of the meeting so agenda items requested at the start.</p> <p>-COVID Boosters & Flu plans -Blood Bottle issues -Difficulty in getting appointments & People's perceptions about not being able to get face to face appointments</p> <p>COVID Boosters & Flu vaccines Long discussion on the COVID vaccinations, processes, data recording etc.</p> <p>Discussed the difference between 3rd vaccines and Booster vaccine It was reported in the media this morning that some patients with specific illnesses (such as cancer and immunosuppressed) would be invited for a 3rd COVID vaccine rather than a booster. There's confusion about the difference between 3rd jab and booster. LB heard about this news also on the news today so at this time she does not have any further information to share on it. Discussion about pop up centres that open for a short time in places such as churches where clinics are held once or twice as opposed to surgeries that are open all the time.</p> <p>On the news this morning it was said that it will be up to GP surgeries who gets the 3rd dose vaccination and who gets the booster. LB advised there is no one diagnosis of whether someone is immunosuppressed so we can't just look for a specific code as it is down to various drugs and conditions. We have accompany called ARDENS who design all the searches based on all the information taking into account the different variables. This will support us in identifying eligible patients but it will unlikely be a definitive list and GP's will likely have to go through and manually check all the patients that come up on the search to ensure they are eligible.</p> <p>Current communications from the NHS England recommend co-administering the COVID and Flu vaccines together. This presents many issues such as we don't have the capacity to store all the vaccines needed and we don't have trained personal to dilute and draw up COVID vaccine as it has to be a trained pharmacist who does this, so there are lots of logistical issues that prevent us from being able to deliver the programmes in that way. This is due to be starting next week in theory, but at this stage we still don't know what COVID vaccine we will be getting.</p>	

Almost all practices in Merton can't deliver both COVID and Flu vaccines because of logistics in the buildings. But as a Borough we have joined up to co deliver both vaccines at the 2 centres that we have currently got running but we don't know how and when this is going to happen because of logistics of delivery of both vaccines.

It may well be that as a practice we deliver the flu vaccinations and the COVID vaccines are given at the two centralised sites in the borough, but at this stage nothing has been confirmed.

Our practice won't get delivery of Flu vaccinations until 27th September anyway unlike pharmacies who get them 3 weeks earlier.

Child Flu is now available to book and clinics are starting for this shortly.

The practice has contacted all known eligible 12-15 year olds to see if they would like to book a COVID vaccine.

NHS COVID app

This has created a huge amount of administrative work.

Additional staffing

We have got extra staffing capacity in comparison to 18 months ago, however we are incredibly limited with what we can do/offer due to lack of clinical space.

Blood Bottle issue

There is a national shortage of blood bottles and so are unable to do blood tests unless they are deemed clinically urgent. Pre-booked blood tests need to be cancelled and we have been sent guidance on what is deemed clinically urgent. It is hoping to be resolved within 3 months.

Recruitment updates

-The data manager had to have extended leave of 7 weeks over the summer, she is just back.

-Admin Manager recruitment fell through so Diana is staying on for longer until we can find a replacement.

-New reception staff are really nice, but still very much learning.

-2 new care coordinators, Sophie and Aisha started a few weeks ago.

-Pharmacist recruitment is still on-going.

AOB