

# **Patient Participant Group**

## **Minutes of 22/01/19 meeting**

**Attended:** Halima Patel, Mark Burgess (Practice Manager), Mike Tindall, Saby Ghosh (Chair), Sandra Gilliard, Leanne Midwinter (Virtual Members Coordinator), Cynthia Hart-Jones (Assistant Practitioner).

### **Speaker: Meera Parkash, Medicines Management Team, CCG**

Meera provided a handout "The NHS and Medicines".

Meera outlined the general review that is taking place, e.g. in terms of the way medication is being prescribed with an increase in the emphasis on self-management. Quality of life is being looked at for the numerous patients who take lots of medication – is it all needed? Is it best for them?

NHS also spends around £16 billion per year on prescribing. The NHS are decreasing the use of medicines considered to be of low value or low clinical value e.g. paracetamol which can be purchased over the counter for around 16p whereas prescribing it costs around 10 times more.

The Chair asked if there was a figure for Pharmacy to add to the "Cost of using your NHS" poster. Meera said she would look into the cost of a community pharmacy allocation. There was some discussion around the issue of certain pharmacies not stocking certain medications when patients try to get them yet other pharmacies always have the same medications in stock.

NHS Long Term Plan is likely to mean more scrutiny over money and more standardisation of products across all 6 South East London CCGs.

The Chair mentioned some repeat medications are given for 1 month, others for 2 months so there is a mismatch – the meds for 2 months could build up and/or run out of date before being used. Meera said repeat prescribing is also being reviewed.

### **Review minutes from last meeting, action log, matters arising and approval**

The minutes were approved.

### **Virtual members update**

Two new virtual members have been added but two have also left the group, leaving 25 virtual members. Of those, four are waiting to join the Committee. Due to a resignation there is a vacancy on the committee. The Chair will ask Muriel Simmons and Ray Ellen if they wish to continue. The Virtual Members Coordinator will ask the 4 people waiting what skills they could bring to the committee, e.g. pharmacy background or minute-taking etc. with a view to filling any vacancies.

### **Highlights of the meetings Chair attended**

Mystery Shopper – currently 650 members, still aiming for 2000; Cairngall Surgery in Belvedere is closing at the end of March and had 9000 patients, approximately 5000 are still to be reallocated; Queen Mary's Hospital Site Services Meeting – brief update with handouts of the Assisted Living homes being built.

### **Practice Manager's update including sharing any information as a Governing body member**

#### Surgery news

- Dr Jemima Ho's 4-month placement with the surgery ends at the end of this month. She has been really good. Dr Stokes will be getting another trainee in April for 4 months.
- All-practice meeting held today which was very constructive in improving processes and care. An action plan is being typed up by the meeting facilitator.
- Fibre N3 Connection: The first steps have been taken to install a new fibre broadband line which should mean improved performance of the clinical system

#### Governing Body Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> January

- Chief Executive for Oxleas gave a presentation. Keen to emphasise partnership with South London and Maudsley (SLaM).
- Bexley Care should have a single point of contact from April with just one referral form

- New NHS Long Term Plan released, plans for next 10 years. 3 key themes: Best start in life; Delivering world-class care; Supporting people to age well.
- Work under way to relocate the Erith Urgent Care Centre which is likely to go to the upstairs of Erith Health Centre – this would involve installing an additional lift into the centre. The Hub will follow but Radiology will remain on site at Erith.
- CCG and South East London Alliance are assessing a no-deal Brexit and are working on a contingency plan, e.g. supply of medicines and vaccines, consumables, workforce etc.
- Bexley and Greenwich CCG executive teams are merging under leadership of a single Managing Director. The sovereign bodies will remain in place. Joint MD has been appointed (the Greenwich MD); Bexley's current MD, Theresa Osborne, is moving to a role as the director of the South East London Commissioning Reform.

#### **Any other business including future speakers**

- A committee member had rung the surgery to check an appointment time and Dr Ralf's voice on the answerphone seemed more quiet. The Practice Manager said he would see if the volume can be boosted. **ACTION: MB to check volume on surgery phone message.**
- The Chair said that as Dr Ralf hasn't been able to attend lately, would CHJ be able to attend regularly? CHJ said she couldn't commit to this at present. There was discussion around the availability and willingness of the doctors to attend the meetings. The group were not in agreement around the expectation of a doctor attending the meetings. **ACTION: MB to discuss attendance with the GPs.**
- Speaker for March meeting: Laura Burke, MIND

**Date of next meeting Tuesday 19th March 2019**