



This month sees a welcome return for the Bruntsfield Medical Practice Newsletter after a break over the winter during the height of the Swine Flu pandemic. The practice put in place basic procedures to reduce the risk of contamination by removing all magazines and leaflets, including the newsletter, from the waiting area. We would like to thank everyone for their patience and co-operation during this time.



You can visit the practice website for the most up-to-date news on the Swine Flu vaccination programme, and if you have any questions you can speak to your usual GP.

THE BMP NURSING TEAMS

This quarter we focus on the Health Visitors

Introducing: Anne Gaskell

Present role: Health Visitor

Length of service at BMP: 2 years

Overall service in nursing: More than 20 years!

Healthcare provided by yourself and your team?

Health Visitors mainly work with babies, young children, and their families, promoting health and well-being. We provide home visits for very young babies and offer advice and support at clinics thereafter. We can help with infant feeding, weaning, skin-care, sleep and behaviour issues, toilet training, family stresses and post-natal depression.

We also manage child immunisations and can refer children for speech therapy, hearing problems and eye problems. Local support groups and voluntary agencies can also be recommended by us.



Most enjoyable parts of your job?

I enjoy the variety of my daily workload and the combination of clinic and community work.

How can patients contact you?

We are available for telephone advice on 228 7502, or can be accessed by appointment or at our drop in clinics on Wednesdays 2.00 to 3.30pm.

STAFF NEWS

The practice bid farewell to our first year specialist GP trainee, Dr Jessica Cooper, in February. Dr Cooper was with the practice for six months since August 2009, and although we will miss her, we are delighted to know that she will be returning in August 2011 for her final year of GP training.

We also bid farewell to another of our GPs, Dr Paul Stimpson, at the end of March. At the same time we congratulate him on gaining a partnership at the Colinton Medical Practice, where he did his final year of specialist GP training. Our loss is their gain, and I'm sure you join us in wishing him well in his new post. Dr Stimpson's last day with the practice was Wed 31st March.

We are, however, very pleased to announce that Dr Fraser Uytman, a previous GP trainee at Bruntsfield, and more recently working here as a locum cover for Dr Calvert on Maternity Leave, has agreed to stay on with the practice, and has taken over care of Dr Stimpson's patients.

Dr Joanna Loudon, and Bridget King with the Health Visiting team, have both recently started maternity leave. Dr Loudon is expected back in October, while Bridget is expected to return sometime next year. Dr Calvert will be returning from her maternity leave near the end of May, and Shona Swain, Practice Nurse, in late summer.

You may have noticed a couple of new faces at reception recently, with the start of Christine Sheridan and Colin Keillor at the practice. Christine is one of our Medical Secretaries, and Colin works in the practice IT department, but both take regular shifts at reception. I hope you will help us in making them feel welcome at Bruntsfield.

*Pictured L-R: Anne Gaskell, Ann Fraser, and Alison Sutherland

BREAST SCREENING

The routine call of women aged 50-70, to Ardmillan House for breast screening, has started again for patients registered at Bruntsfield.

The NHS Breast Screening Programme provides free breast screening every three years for all women in the UK aged 50 and over.

Further information on the programme can be found here: <http://www.nsd.scot.nhs.uk/services/screening/breastscreening/index.html>

FUNDRAISING

The BMP team, led by Dr Galloway and Gail Aitchison have started to raise funds to purchase a portable defibrillator (a machine that "shocks" the heart back to a normal rhythm) for the practice.

700,000 people die each year following sudden cardiac arrest, and a significant number of those lives could have been saved if early access to defibrillation was available.

If you would like to make a contribution to our defibrillator fund, please ask for details at reception, or contact Mrs Brenda Mair (our Practice Manager) on 228 6081.

CHILD PROTECTION IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

Did you know, there is now just one number for all children and families social work enquiries in Edinburgh. Call Social Care Direct on 0131 200 2327.

If you are worried about a child, then please call this number, and if a call is assessed to be a child protection matter, then they will immediately follow their child protection procedures.

Lines are open 08:30 - 17:00 Monday to Thursday, 08:30 - 15:40 Friday.

Calls outwith these hours should be made to Emergency Social Work Services on 0800 731 6969.

TEST RESULTS

For almost all tests arranged by the Practice, we work on the principle that we will contact you with abnormal results. Two exceptions to this would be cervical smear results which are processed centrally and posted out to patients, and INR blood tests (for people on warfarin) which we ask you to phone in for.



Therefore, you can assume if you don't hear anything from us about the result, that no action is necessary other than that which may have already been arranged. For example your doctor may have asked you to make an appointment after some blood tests so would not contact you about results knowing that he/she will be seeing you to discuss them. They would of course still contact you for results that required urgent action.

We do not suggest that patients routinely phone in for results because of the administrative burden that this would place on the practice (we arrange for many, many tests a day). There may be occasional circumstances where your healthcare professional will suggest you do phone.

If you do have a conversation with our reception staff about a result please realise that they can only pass on the message that the doctor has left on the result and that they are unable to engage in interpretation of results. So don't be frustrated by being asked to speak with your doctor for clarification!

If you have tests at hospital then generally the results from these will be returned to the hospital clinician that ordered them. It would be rare for us to receive the result before you, so enquiries about these results would best be directed through the hospital system.

Please remember to inform us if you can't keep your appointment (by phone or online)



Contributors

Gail Aitchison (Practice Nurse)
Mike Cash (GP)

Anne Gaskell (Health Visitor)
Karen McDonald (IT Dept)