

Pinfold Medical Practice's PPG September 2024 Newsletter

Contact us via **reception** or the **suggestion box** in the practice foyer

Email: nencicb-cd.pinfoldppg@nhs.net

Hi All,

I hope you have enjoyed your summer, despite the lack of summer weather!

Vaccination Programmes

I am sure you will have heard on TV and media outlets about the increasing number of **Measles** outbreaks in the UK. Teesdale have had a very good uptake of childhood vaccinations but if your child has not been vaccinated with the MMR, please do contact the practice. The Respiratory syncytial virus (**RSV**) vaccine is being rolled out shortly for young children; pregnant women and those who are at risk; the practice will contact this patient cohort accordingly. The **Covid/Covid & Flu** booster is due to be rolled out in October and the practice will be in contact for this particular patient cohort group.

Sadly, **Dr. Wazir** is leaving the practice at the end of September due to personal reasons. We wish him well. The search for his replacement is currently underway and I will keep you posted.

For those who have not visited the practice in recent weeks, I have some very good news, the **dispensary** window is open once more. Behind the window, you will see our new dispenser, Donna, and I am sure you will all make her feel welcome. There are no plans to open the main reception window as yet so patients are kindly asked to continue using the confidential area when speaking with reception staff.

Due to **GP Action**, more calls are being triaged (patients asked for the reason they have called) when you ring reception. Although Dr. Shashi has not joined the action he stands in solidarity with his counterparts within Teesdale's PCN. For this reason, he has agreed to only see 25 patients per day, as stated in his contract; therefore, extra signposting and care navigation is in place. If you have a cough, cold, rash or minor dermatology issue please go to your local pharmacy.

If a patient thinks they may have contracted **M-pox** (formerly known as Monkey Pox) telephone the practice in advance to be triaged and to receive further guidance; alternatively ring 111.

Pinfold will shortly be welcoming year 3 **medical students** who will be in attendance one day per week for the next year.

Bernadette Hunt
PPG Chair & Teesdale Patient Representative