

Healthy Living Group Minutes 10th July 2012

- JS
- TE
- GE
- UG
- SB
- BD
- DC
- JF
- AH
- RR

Staff and Speakers

Joy Smith, Pharmacy
Technician
Khizer Quershi,
Pharmacist
Mandy Neville
Clair Liversidge

Joy Smith came from Sheffield NHS to talk to the group about the reason why certain drug switches take place. This is to utilise the prescribing budget to best effect without compromising patient care.

Joy discussed the medication waste issue and asked the group to advertise only ordering what medications are required to prevent avoidable medicine waste. She also mentioned that for health and safety reasons returned meds can not be used due to a lack of knowledge about how that medication had been stored. Joy highlighted there have been local campaigns on wastage.

Tips

- Ask for items from the right side of the prescription (counterfoil) that are no longer required to be removed.
- That it is important they do not just 'order the lot' but pick and choose
- If different drugs have to be ordered at all different times that we can align the medications so they run out at a similar time. Joy can sort this.

RR suggested that the pharmacy who receives returned out of date medications is best placed to see a pattern of wastage.

The group also all agreed that a good way of discussing wastage was not in pounds but in terms of how many extra nurses and doctors it could fund if wastage was reduced. This may feel more relevant

The pharmacy explained that the Express Delivery Service was trying to make sure medications that are not needed would not be issued. Even those on home visits, (e.g. the pharmacy technician will go through the list with the patient – returning to pharmacy any un-required items).

Joy explained the benefits in terms of cost of changing over medications to generic or cheaper brands. This means the patient still get the same medication it just means from time to time the brand may change. Obviously if patients encounter any issues with the new medication they would immediately be changed back.

Joy highlighted that if any meds are changed a letter used to be sent to the patient; however Joy wondered if a note on the script would be better. The group agreed to try this idea out and they thought it a good idea to keep things simple. If this did not work a letter attached to the script would be more cost effective too.

Please note in some cases a letter would be necessary if a switch requires greater explanation

Mandy Neville highlighted there was no financial incentive for the practice to do this.

Also on the top of the script there will now be a note highlighting if some one is on express/repeat/nomad. The name of the pharmacy is also highlighted.

Mandy stated that although Allen and Barnfield chemist were represented at the group we worked well and closely with all our local pharmacies.

Funding from Consortia

Clair mentioned we have been successful in obtaining funding for the idea of health promotion in pubs and working men's clubs – smoking cessation, spirometry and slimming clubs.

New Building

On 8th August we will do a walk about in our new building. 10 patients from the group are invited and include UG,TE,GE,RR,SB,BH,BD, PD and AH

Plan to meet at the corner of Foxhill Place and Foxhill Road at 1.50pm please.

Mandy explained a bit about the new building and that we would get a mural, we would have to have a call system fitted (whether this is used remained to be seen).

Bendle

The group asked for Bendle to come and do a walk and talk on herbal medicine, we will do this on Tuesday 11th September at Meeting 12.45pm at the main site entrance of the new medical centre

New Doctor

Lucy Rees is leaving 31st July 2012 to emigrate to Australia with her family. Lucy will be really missed. She is to be replaced by Dr Peter Bull who is presently working at a practice in Bury.

Wednesday 8 th August	Tour of New Building	Time – 1.50pm	At the new premise site
Tuesday 11 th September	Herb Walk with Bendle	Time – 12.45	Meet at the main site entrance of the new medical centre
Thursday October 4 th	Flu Jab Day	Time - Afternoon	At the medical Centre -ring to book
Tuesday 16 th October	Healthy Living Group Meeting	Time 12.30	At the medical Centre