



# PPG Newsletter



Working with Alrewas Surgery staff to improve the services for everyone

September 2021

alrewas.ppg@nhs.net

**Welcome to the latest PPG newsletter.** The PPG acts as a patient voice, working with the staff of Alrewas Surgery to promote the wellbeing of patients and helping the practice to improve its service delivery. Below are updates from the PPG and the surgery, together with some general health related information. We hope you find them of interest.

**Bowbrook Dementia Care Home in Fradley:** The PPG will be assisting the surgery by liaising with this new care home and with the families of the residents.

**Memory Walk in aid of the Alzheimer's Society:** St George's Park Football Centre, Sunday 12 September. The PPG is working with Yoxall's Dementia Friendly Community Team who are organising the event. Registration is at the park between 1pm and 2pm and sponsorship forms are available from the Golden Cup in Yoxall. It is a very worthwhile cause and should be a great afternoon out!

**Data sharing:** A reminder that you still have time to choose if data from your health records is shared for research and planning. To find out more, go to: [nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters/manage-your-choice](https://nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters/manage-your-choice). Which? Magazine also has some information - search 'Which NHS data sharing: what you need to know about your medical data'.

**Everyone Health:** If you want help to quit smoking, lead a more active lifestyle, lose some weight, or simply take advantage of the free NHS Health Check, Everyone Health can help you. To find out more, visit their website, [staffordshire.everyonehealth.co.uk](https://staffordshire.everyonehealth.co.uk), call the team on 0333 005 0095 or email [eh.staffs@nhs.net](mailto:eh.staffs@nhs.net).

**Covid vaccination rollout:** Many thanks to the PPG members who are part of the team of volunteers working at the Pirelli Stadium and Uttoxeter hubs. The team has won the East Staffordshire New Volunteer Team of the Year Award. Congratulations one and all!

**Demonstrating your Covid vaccination status:** Please see the surgery website for information.

**Covid vaccination boosters:** These may be coming in the Autumn. The surgery will advise you when they become available and for which groups of people.

**Flu Clinics:** Clinics will start towards the end of September and run throughout the winter months. If you are eligible, you will be able to book your appointment shortly.

**Blood tests requested by hospital doctors:** When you attend a hospital appointment and the doctor asks you to have blood tests done, there is now a new way to arrange them called Swiftqueue. Contact Swiftqueue on 01283 593 200 to book your blood test.

**Patient Survey 2020:** Many thanks to all our patients who completed the survey. The response rate was the highest so far. Please see the report on the surgery website: [alrewassurgery.co.uk/annual-reports-actions-plans](https://alrewassurgery.co.uk/annual-reports-actions-plans).

**Appointments:** Requests for appointments with the doctors and nurses continue to increase. The number of registered patients has grown by 440 in the last two years and in addition, a new 90 bed dementia care home has just opened in Fradley. Telephone triage for doctor appointments is still in place and there are additional people to support the services we offer. For example, Lukasz Walijewski, Clinical Pharmacist and Katy Lawrence, Social Prescriber. Please be aware that receptionists are not being nose-y or trying to restrict access when they ask what the appointment is for. They are trying to get you to see the most appropriate person as quickly as possible, and this may not always be a doctor.

**Long term conditions management:** This service continues to operate and unless you have been seen in the interim, you will be contacted in your birth month.

**Ear irrigation:** We are still unable to carry out ear irrigation in the surgery, but our nurses are happy to check your ears if you feel that they are blocked. If you require ear irrigation, you can book an appointment with Specsavers Audiology service. They do charge for this service.

**Travel vaccinations:** Some pharmacies provide a travel service, including vaccinations. The surgery can offer you information on your vaccination history, but not travel vaccinations at the moment.

**Goodbye and thank you:** Linda Smith, a receptionist, who retired after 15 years' service. A fabulous team member who will be greatly missed. Dr Tim Du Sautoy and Dr Nasreen Sayed who have both now completed their GP training. We wish them good luck in the next steps of their career.

**Hello and welcome:** Dr Kiran Sampathirao who joined as a new GP partner in April. She has previously worked in the practice and we are delighted to welcome her back in her new role as partner. Also welcome to Rachel Iles, a new receptionist, and to two new GP registrars, Dr Olu and Dr Ade, who will be working at the surgery until Summer 2022.

**Want to find out more about the PPG?** Go to the Patient Group section of the surgery website. If you'd like to get in touch, please email [alrewas.ppg@nhs.net](mailto:alrewas.ppg@nhs.net).

*And finally, sincere thanks from the PPG to the surgery staff for everything they are doing during these still difficult times. You are much appreciated!*