

Queen Edith Medical Practice

An Introduction to the Patient Participation Group

Background

It is very good that there is so much interest in the PPG, as was evidenced by the Patient Survey, which was conducted in the autumn of 2016 and reported in our Newsletter (#8) of December 2016. Much has happened since then.

This Introduction is designed to inform all interested persons about the PPG, what is going on and what contribution they could make.

Membership

Any registered patient of the Practice can be a Member of the PPG. Presently, our aim is to have 30 full and active members and a wider circle of interested parties. Further details are in the Constitution. If you would like to contribute, please let us know.

Meetings

The Group meets about four times a year and also holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November. A Committee (currently six people) meets as needed to prepare materials for the Group meetings. Committee Members have a range of internal and external responsibilities, including leading Focus Groups which are developing projects for the Group (and all patients).

All registered patients are welcome to attend the regular meetings and the AGM. Those over 16 years old can vote on matters requiring a vote.

Relevant Information

Please see the Practice website <http://www.queenedithmedicalpractice.co.uk/> and the PPG Section. Here you will find:

- Terms of Reference
- Copies of Newsletters Published four times a year (Number 14 was published in July 2018)
- Date of Future Meeting To be published two-four weeks in advance
- Constitution To be published in mid-September
- Notice of AGM To be posted in early/mid October

Affiliations

There are many organisations whose work is linked to the Practice and the PPG. The PPG seeks to maintain contact with several of these so that it can represent the viewpoint of patients to the Practice and other parties. Three key ones are:

NAPP (National Association of Patient Participation). See www.napp.org.uk/ for information. Members of the PPG have full access to this site – details from the Chairman (*but please do not alter the password*)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (the CCG). This is part of NHS England. See www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk for information. QEMP

is one of approximately 100 GP practices commissioned by the CCG to provide primary care services in the County (QEMP chooses to provide some additional services and has control over those). Addenbrooke's and other hospitals in the region are also commissioned by the CCG. Details of the CCG's Sustainability and Transformation Plan) make interesting reading.

Note: The CCG monitors hospital and specialist referrals from Practices, with most being approved. The CCG also monitors against various targets. NHS England or the CCG can decide to stop or not provide some services e.g. medicines that can be bought OTC (over the counter). In this area there is no varicose vein surgery, unless a GP can prove a special case on an individual basis.

Cambridge Area Patients' Group (CAPG). This group was formed during 2018 (taking over from a previous smaller group). CAPG contains representatives of many of the PPGs in and around the City. It holds regular meetings with part of the CCG to provide a patients' view. One of our Committee Members is the Deputy Chair of CAPG.

Others

We are forging relationships with other organisations in the local community, the City, the County and nationally to explore collaborative projects which may benefit patients and their carers.

The PPG welcomes comments on this **Introduction** and also any questions that you might wish to address to us.

Please let us know what you think – preferably by e-mail to the Chair alanwilliams.60@gmail.com or the Newsletter Editor rogercrabtree77@gmail.com Subject to travel and holidays etc, we will attempt to respond as quickly as possible.