

NHS Update – September 2011

Exercise after stroke service in Wiltshire

NHS Wiltshire and Wiltshire Council are working together to provide exercise classes for stroke survivors at leisure centres across the county. Exercise professionals have received stroke training so they can help people to recover more quickly through specially-tailored exercises classes. The first exercise after-stroke classes and gym-based sessions will be offered from September at Castle Place Leisure Centre in Trowbridge. Further classes will be offered in Chippenham, Salisbury, Devizes and Marlborough from January 2012.

Exercise is particularly important for people who are recovering from a stroke, as a stroke often results in reduced strength, mobility, fitness and mood as well as loneliness and a myriad of additional challenges such as pain, impaired movement or comprehension, which may make it difficult for people with stroke to get to exercise facilities. The exercise after stroke service forms part of a range of improvements to stroke services in Wiltshire to help people rebuild their lives.

Stroke Clubs are currently held across Wiltshire in Amesbury, Chippenham, Salisbury, Swindon, Trowbridge, Warminster and Wroughton. Stroke community support workers are also available to provide advice and support to people who have had a stroke and their carers. A major review by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on stroke care has placed NHS Wiltshire in the category of **best performing** Primary Care Trusts, ranking the trust 20 out of 151 PCTs for the stroke services it delivers. Further details can be found on the NHS Wiltshire website at: <http://www.wiltshire.nhs.uk/Public/Your-health-wellbeing/FAST-stroke-action.htm>

Stop Smoking Successfully

Nearly 5,000 people used the NHS Wiltshire Stop Smoking Service last year. Our aim is to make Wiltshire a healthier place to live and there are many more people we can help to quit. The Wiltshire NHS Stop Smoking Service supports people in a variety of methods and treatments, providing specialist support for groups of people such as women who are pregnant, people with mental health problems and young people. The team of advisors work across different services in all sorts of venues including GP surgeries and health centres, clinics, pharmacies, Children's Centres and hospitals. NHS Stop Smoking Services encourage anyone who is trying to stop their habit to contact us on 01380 733891 or via our website NHSstopsmoking@wiltshire.nhs.uk.

Next NHS Wiltshire Board Meeting

The next Board meeting of NHS Wiltshire will be held on **21 September 2011 at 10am - Southgate House**. Members of the public are welcome to attend. Papers are published a week before the meeting on www.wiltshire.nhs.uk or on request from Stacey Saunders, NHS Wiltshire (tel: 01380 733839, email: stacey.saunders@wiltshire.nhs.uk). For further information or copies of documents referred to above, please email communications@wiltshire.nhs.uk