

## **NHS Update– November 2009**

### **Annual Health Check by the Care Quality Commission**

NHS Wiltshire is performing 'above average' in areas which mean most to patients and local residents and is meeting all national care quality standards, according to new figures published in October. The figures are part of the fourth Annual Health Check published by the Care Quality Commission, which regulates the performance of health and social care organisations.

The Annual Health Check scores NHS organisations against a range of measures based on national targets, self-assessments and other reports of performance, and gives them an overall rating consisting of two parts. This year, NHS Wiltshire has scored 'fair' for performance of services and 'fair' for use of resources, an improvement on last year's results.

### **Swine Flu vaccinations start in Wiltshire**

The H1N1 (Swine Flu) vaccination programme has started in Wiltshire and will continue to be rolled out over the next few weeks. Local GPs are contacting patients who fall into priority groups, to invite them to receive the vaccine.

The priority groups have been determined nationally by two independent expert committees, the Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisation, and the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies.

The vaccination is also being offered to frontline health and social care staff who are at increased risk of infection and of transmitting that infection to patients.

### **We are looking for a number of flu friends throughout Wiltshire – can you help? Do you know someone who could?**

It's best for people who are ill with swine flu to stay at home. Their flu friend collects medication on their behalf. You do not have to make physical contact with the person with flu as you collect their medication from the appointed pharmacy and put it through the person's letter box. There is no payment for being a person's flu friend but you will know that you are helping vulnerable people in your neighbourhood that have nobody else to help.

If you are interested in being someone's flu friend please get in touch by either email or telephone and tell us your name, address, day contact number and the area you live.

Email: [Swine.flu@wiltshire.nhs.uk](mailto:Swine.flu@wiltshire.nhs.uk) or telephone: 01380 733701

### **Wiltshire Alcohol Strategy and Implementation Plan**

The Wiltshire Alcohol Strategy and Implementation Plan was launched at the Wiltshire Assembly on Friday 30 October. The strategy sets out a vision for addressing alcohol problems, led by Maggie Rae, Joint Director of Public Health and Champion for Alcohol and Drugs for the Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership. It is supported by the Champions for all community safety themes in recognition of the role of alcohol in offending and re-offending, fires and road casualties, health effects, violent crime and anti-social behaviour. An electronic version of the document can be found at

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/communitysafety.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityandliving/communitysafety.htm)

### **Compact week 2009**

NHS Wiltshire is proud to be supporting this year's Compact week, which takes place from Monday 2 November to Sunday 8 November 2009. This national awareness week promotes the Compact, the longstanding agreement that sets out shared commitments and guidelines for partnership working between government and the voluntary and community sector

### **NHS Treatment Centre opens in Devizes**

The new NHS Treatment Centre in Marshall Road, Devizes opened on 2 November. The centre, which is operated by private health provider UKSH, will provide extra choice for surgical patients across the county. The centre provides day surgery and diagnostics in a wide range of areas including minor orthopaedics, gynaecology, urology and specialist dental surgery. All GPs have been informed of this new service for NHS patients in Wiltshire.

### **The future of community services**

NHS Wiltshire and Wiltshire Community Health Services are planning ways in to deliver the best community health care over the next five years. Two key documents were approved by our board in October, which give a full and detailed picture of our intentions. These provide a fuller perspective than some of the recent media coverage

[.WCHS five-year strategic plan](#)

[Transforming Community Services commissioning strategy](#)

### **New ward opens at Chippenham Community Hospital**

On Tuesday 3 November 2009 all general medical inpatients at Chippenham Community Hospital were moved to the newly-modernised Cedar Ward. Occupying the same buildings as the previous Cameron Ward, Cedar provides high standards of privacy and dignity in a mixture of single, double, three- and four-bedded rooms, all same-sex and all with en suite bathrooms. Flat-screen TVs have been provided in all rooms, kindly donated by the League of Friends. The ward is on the ground floor, providing access to the garden and conservatory, and includes a day room, dining room and a day treatment unit for use by the Neighbourhood Team.

### **Sustainability Development Plan launched**

NHS Wiltshire has pledged a commitment to sustainability through the development of the PCT's Sustainable Development Management Plan and environmental policies. The organisation will actively seek to work with healthcare providers and suppliers who use methods which put carbon saving at the heart of all their business, for instance the development of green travel plans, recycling waste and the reduction of energy use in buildings.

### **NHS Wiltshire Board Meetings**

The next Board meeting will be held on **Wednesday 25 November 2009, in the Conference Room at Southgate House, Devizes**

Papers are published a week before the meeting on [www.wiltshire.nhs.uk](http://www.wiltshire.nhs.uk) or on request from Maggie Goodman, NHS Wiltshire (tel: 01380 733827, email: [maggie.goodman@wiltshire.nhs.uk](mailto:maggie.goodman@wiltshire.nhs.uk))

For further information or copies of documents referred to above, please contact your lead Community Engagement Manager:

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