

NHS Update– September 2009



Swine flu:

The Department of Health launched the National Pandemic Flu Service on 23 July. Anyone who suspects they have swine flu is advised not to go to their GP or A&E but instead ring the national service on **0800 1 513 100**.

People should contact their doctor directly rather than using the National Pandemic Flu Service if:

- They have a serious underlying illness;
- They are pregnant
- They have a sick child under one year old
- Their condition suddenly gets much worse
- If their condition is still getting worse after 7 days (5 for a child)

Volunteer flu friends required

At present people with flu like symptoms are being asked to telephone their surgery and if swine flu is suspected then the GP issues an anti-viral medication voucher.

The national advice is that a flu friend is required to collect the voucher from the surgery and take it along with necessary identification to their nearest anti-viral collection point.

Although this system is working well there will always be a small number of people who do not have anyone to act on their behalf as a 'flu friend' and so we are looking for volunteers to support vulnerable people. If you are interested, please contact the NHS Wiltshire incident room by either phoning 01380 733701 or emailing swine.flu@wiltshire.nhs.uk

Over 2,500 kick the habit as NHS Wiltshire smashes smoking quit goal

New figures published last week show that over 2,500 people in Wiltshire quit smoking last year, with the help of the Wiltshire NHS Stop Smoking Service, potentially saving thousands of lives from illnesses such as lung cancer and heart disease.

2,577 people across Wiltshire quit smoking in 2008-2009, exceeding the original aim by 2%.

The positive figures follow on from the successful launch of Smokefree South West earlier this year, which aims to build on the work carried out by local NHS Stop Smoking Service teams to tackle smoking in the region.

Non-executive members re-appointed to NHS Wiltshire

Both Roger Newton and John Holden have been re-appointed to serve as non-executives directors on the PCT board from 1 October 2009 until 30 September 2013. John Holden has also been re-appointed to serve as Audit Chair. The appointments have been made in accordance with the Commissioner for Public Appointments' Code of Practice.

Together with the five other non-executive directors on the NHS Wiltshire board – Peter Lucas, Christine Reid, Elisabeth Woods, Brian Stables and David Stevens – and Chairman Tony Barron, Mr Newton and Mr Holden bring a wide range of skills and experience to NHS Wiltshire.

Chairman Tony Barron said:

"We value the wealth of knowledge, broad awareness and experience that these local Wiltshire residents bring to the board. I am delighted that they have both been re-appointed for a further term, enabling me to maintain a powerful, well qualified, diverse and highly skilled team".

Wiltshire patients have above average choice, survey finds

A recent survey published by the Department of Health has found that Wiltshire patients are more likely to be able to attend their hospital of choice than the national average. The county's family doctors have ranked Wiltshire in the UK's top 10% in the National Patient Choice Survey.

Erlestone prisoners trained to improve health and wellbeing

Eight prisoners at HMP Erlestone were presented with certificates identifying them as fully qualified Health Trainers by Rachel Carse, National Programme Lead for Offender Health at the Department of Health, and Maggie Rae, Wiltshire's Joint Director of Public Health at a celebration event at the prison on 2 September.

The Prison Health Partnership Board made a commitment to develop a Health Trainer service at HMP Erlestone in October 2008. The group, who officially qualified in July, includes a fully deaf prisoner and two prisoners where English is not their first language. All were identified as "compliant" prisoners and had been drug free for at least 3 months when they began training. A signer was employed to interpret and be the voice of the deaf student and all of the eight offenders now help their own clients within the prison.

Delivering Health Information through Wiltshire's Libraries

You may already have heard of HISS, the Health Information Support Service designed to provide easy access to health advice and information in several of Wiltshire's Libraries. Key features include:

- A weekly, half day, drop in session enabling customers to talk to a health practitioner
- Access to books, leaflets and information on a broad range of health issues
- Online access to NHS Choices and other key online health websites

The service is currently running in Melksham, Warminster and Salisbury Libraries. These will be joined by Calne, Chippenham, Devizes, Mere and Wootton Bassett in early September and Bradford-on-Avon, Marlborough, Tidworth and Trowbridge in October. The twelve libraries have been chosen to align with the 11 Wiltshire Community Health Service (WCHS) Neighbourhood Team areas.

Library	Telephone Number	Service available from:
Bradford on Avon	01225 863280/868127	12/10/09
Calne	01249 813128	07/09/09
Chippenham	01249 650536	07/09/09
Devizes	01380 726878/726879	07/09/09
Marlborough	01672 512663	12/10/09
Melksham	01225 702039	Now
Mere	01747 860546	07/09/09
Salisbury	01722 324145	Now
Tidworth	01980 843460	12/10/09
Trowbridge	01225 761171/761172	12/10/09
Warminster	01985 216022	Now
Wootton Bassett	01793 853249	07/09/09

Primary Care Centre Progress

Devizes

The outline business case has been signed off by the Board following a Devizes town survey regarding the site. GPs will hold the lease and accommodation schedules have been agreed with all 3 practices. A transport survey has been undertaken and a public open day arranged 1 October at Devizes Town Hall. The planning application is due for submission in late October with the goal to start work by March 2010 which would result in the centre being operational by early summer 2011.

Westbury

The outline business case has been signed off by the Board and the site secured. The development will be GP financed with the PCT taking a lease within the centre. Accommodation schedules have been agreed with all practices. Local groups have been involved via steering groups and there will be an open day arranged nearer completion.

Plans are scheduled to be submitted by March 2010 with a view to open in March 2011.

Trowbridge

The outline business case for Trowbridge Primary Care Centre to be built on NHS owned land in Trowbridge have been approved by the board and outline planning permission granted by the council subject to ratification by the Secretary of State

Salisbury 1 – Fountain Way

Discussions about development are still underway and plans will need to take account of the historic buildings on site. At the moment it is not possible to put accurate timescales to this development. It is unlikely that this will go to planning before Spring of 2010, planning could take up to a year. It is not anticipated that this development will be open before 2012.

Salisbury 2 – Castle Street practice development

This will be a development for Castle Street practice only and will not include space for PCT services. It is assumed but not confirmed that this development will be on the space ground owned by the PCT at Avon approach – currently used as a car park by the Walk-in centre. This is a small development and potentially could be open in under 2 years, however to date progress is slow.

NHS Treatment centre in Devizes

The new Devizes NHS Treatment Centre will open in November 2009 to treat local NHS patients. The centre was commissioned by the Department of Health to cut waiting time for treatment and to complement local acute hospitals such as the Royal United Hospital in Bath and Great Western Hospital in Swindon.

The new purpose designed centre will offer a range of day case procedures, normally found in large hospitals, but closer to where patients live. Diagnostic procedures and out-patient appointments will also be available. The treatment centre will have four day case beds, two operating theatres and free on site parking.

The services provided will be:

- Minor orthopaedic surgery
- Ophthalmology
- General surgery
- Ear, nose and throat procedures
- Gynaecology
- Endoscopy
- Urology
- Diagnostics
- Dental surgery

Stakeholders and the public will be invited to view the new centre before it opens. Look out for more details in October.

NHS Wiltshire Board Meetings

The next Board meeting will be held on **Wednesday 23 September 2009, Assembly Rooms in Marlborough**

Papers are published a week before the meeting on www.wiltshire.nhs.uk or on request from Maggie Goodman, NHS Wiltshire (tel: 01380 733827, email: 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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