

MERSEA ISLAND MEDICAL PRACTICE
Patient Group meeting on 11th November 2019

Extended Access: There has been a good take up of this service. Please note that all appointments have to be made with the Mersea receptionist, there is no other way to get an appointment. The GPs, nurses, physiotherapists, etc., will be at Rowhedge GP Practice on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday; will be at the University Campus GP Practice on Tuesday and Thursday (not the Wivenhoe GP Practice). Moving forward there are plans to move to Brightlingsea GP Practice on Wednesday's.

Staff: Dr Opaneye has now taken on all Dr Albu's patients, who will have received either a text message or letter informing them of the change. All 3 of the third year Registrars are still with the Practice. With such a large clinical team the Practice has great capacity both morning and afternoon.

Dr Omar has reduced his session and now only works on a Monday.
Dr Abdullah and Dr Tiwari have also both reduced their sessions, working three days per week.
Dr Patel remains working on a Tuesday and Friday.
Dr Eriksson has increased her sessions and now works three days per week.

Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC): This is situated at the front of Colchester Hospital, before A&E. It is advised that all patients telephone 111 before attending in order to avoid a wasted visit as all patients are triaged to ensure their attendance at the UTC is appropriate. If not deemed appropriate you may be turned away, sign posted to the pharmacist or to self-care at home.

More information: <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/urgent-and-emergency-care/nhs-111/>

Phlebotomy Service: This remains at the Primary Care Centre, where the old Walk-In Centre used to be but it is now a more restricted service. You must have the form from your GP with you, or they will not do a test. The Practice continue to offer appointments Monday to Friday and now have 2 collections daily (tide permitting). There is a free 1 hour parking at the Primary Care Centre. More information: <https://www.neessexccg.nhs.uk/your-health>

Flu Vaccinations: This year's flu clinics went well. Due to good take up so far and limited stock remaining there will not be any future clinics. However, if you did not get your flu jab, please telephone the Practice and an appointment will be made for you.

There has been a national shortage of children's nasal vaccines, and this has meant that children at school will get vaccinated first and then the 2yr and the 3yr olds at the between mid-to-end of November. One of the problems has been that the Practice has only been allowed to order 35% of the vaccines for the eligible cohort. The Practice has prioritised the most vulnerable 2 and 3 year olds to ensure they receive the vaccination first as they are most at risk.

Did Not Attend: There was a discussion on the proposed letter to go to the patients that most frequently abuse the system. The GP Partners have decided that the first step will be to text those patients and then review results.

Patient's Annual Review:

It was asked if patients should have a blood test prior to their annual medication review. Zoey advised that this all depends on the individual patients care plan. Some patients may be asked to attend for a blood test some may not.

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