

SAXMUNDHAM HEALTH NEWS

The Surgery, Lambsale Meadow, Saxmundham, IP17 1DY

Spring 07



Internet Access

With more and more people having internet access, we have decided to make some long overdue changes to our website. There are now a number of new facilities on the practice site www.saxquax.co.uk so log on and have a browse. We understand that with busy lives it is not always convenient to drop a repeat slip into the surgery or to telephone in for an appointment. So we have launched a new feature on the website which allows patients to book appointments online, order repeat medication, and update their address and telephone number all at the click of a button. We have also updated our website to include a number of patient information leaflets full of information about medical conditions, so if you browse through these first you could even save yourself a trip to the surgery! If you would like to make use of this system, you will need to first register your interest with the practice. We will then issue you with a password and other log on details which you can use to create an account. Once you have your details log onto www.saxquax.co.uk and go to the "online facilities" section where you will then be able to create an account and book appointments and order repeat medication online.

To request a password or more information please contact Hollie Farthing at the surgery. You can do this either by telephone (01728) 602022, by e-mail admin@gp-d83053.nhs.uk or by popping in to the surgery.

FOCUS ON TEENAGERS

We know that delivering healthcare to teenagers and young adults is difficult. We are trying some new approaches which we hope will be more useful for this group. We have written two leaflets about teenage services and smoking/obesity prevention. The second leaflet has been covered in the local press and both can also be seen on the website – www.saxquax.co.uk.

We have also written a Self-Help Guide for Chronic Obstructive Airways Disease which has been adopted formally across the county. Twelve thousand of these leaflets are currently being distributed to Practices and the sponsoring drug company plan national distribution soon!

Clinical Photography

We are pleased to announce that we now have a medical photographer, Tessa Greaves. Tess, who is also one of our Phlebotomists and a Note Summariser is a keen photographer who has spent time with the Clinical Photography Department at the Ipswich Hospital. Prior to referral to the hospital, the doctors may make a referral to Tess so a clinical photograph can be attached to your referral letter that goes to the hospital. We have found that this is beneficial to both the patient and the Consultant as this gives the Consultant the opportunity for early assessment. Although this service is not funded by the PCT, the GPs at this surgery feel that this is a valuable service to offer.

Dispensary Hours

Dispensary have increased the hours their telephones are open for medication queries to between 9.30 – 12.00 and 4.30 – 6.00

GREEN ISSUES

We are trying to do our bit for the environment the surgery is now having its shredded paper and cardboard recycled.

PEOPLE

Sharon Meers our Practice Manager is on six months maternity leave as from the 14th May. We wish her well with her impending delivery. Jayne Coulson will be covering the Practice Manager's position full time. Shirley Scopes will be temporary Dispensary Manager and Sally Owen, who used to work here nine years' ago is coming back one day a week to help in dispensary for the duration of Sharon's leave.

Wasted Medication

The picture below shows the medication we have had returned in the last month to our dispensary. The medication was ordered by patients and never used. When it is returned we have to destroy it. With the current financial situation of the NHS this is such a waste. Please only order medication you know you will use.

