



SAXMUNDHAM HEALTH NEWS

The Surgery, Lamsale Meadow, Saxmundham, IP17 1DY

www.saxquax.co.uk

Tel: 01728 602022 – Opening times 8:00am to 6:30pm

EASTER 2011

Dispensary News



Ordering Medication for Easter

Please note that the surgery will be closed on the following dates:

Good Friday (22nd April)

Easter Monday (25th April)

Bank Holiday Friday (29th April) and Monday 2nd May

Please be aware that hospital prescriptions should be taken to the hospital pharmacy and NOT handed into the dispensary. Most hospital prescriptions state quite clearly to hand this in at the hospital pharmacy only.

Please inform dispensary as soon as possible if a patient who uses a dossett box is admitted into hospital. This prevents medication wastage.

Reminders: Contacting the dispensary by phone- Please telephone between 9.30am-12noon or 4.30pm- 6pm only

Please allow two full working days when requesting your repeat medications due to the dispensing procedures.

Friday Requests

Prescriptions received on a Friday morning will be ready for collection on the following **Tuesday** morning. Friday afternoon requests will be ready on Tuesday afternoons. Any requests received after 4.30pm will be ready for collection on Wednesday mornings.

For urgent requests no prescriptions will be signed during surgery times- please call after 6pm. We will do our very best to assist you with any queries or concerns



Natural background radiation comes from cosmic and environmental sources. Little can be done to influence this. The average person receives a dose of about 2.4mSv each year. Medical radiation due to diagnostic techniques account for about 15% of the total exposure in the UK's population.

A Chest X-Ray gives about 3 days equivalent natural background radiation.

Pelvic X-Ray gives about 91 days equivalent. Kidney X-Ray with dye gives about 106 days equivalent.

CT scans give an even greater exposure. Radiation exposure is linked to cancer and genetic mutations.

These tests may be needed to assist medical diagnosis and management but should be carefully considered.

Saxquax Feedback-Patient Participation Group



We are looking for proactive members who are representative of the cross section of our Practice population.

We meet four times a year in the evening however we would like to have contact with as many patients as possible and are looking at setting up a virtual group. If you would like to be kept informed via email please contact reception with your details.



NHS Bowel Cancer Screening

The NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme is now taking place in our practice area and a number of patients have already taken part. The programme offers screening every two years to all men and women aged 60 to 69. People in this age group will automatically be sent an invitation with further information. The aim of the programme is to detect bowel cancer at an early stage (in people with no symptoms), when treatment is more likely to be effective.

For more information please visit:

www.cancerscreening.nhs.uk

Wasted Appointments

Over the past year we have noticed a large number of appointments have not been kept. Since January 2010 there have been 3012 missed appointments, approximately 200 each month. In terms of clinical time lost this is over 500 hours.

This amount of wasted appointments means that we are sometimes unable to offer appointments to those patients that really need them. We appreciate that there are sometimes valid reasons for a patient not to attend an appointment that they have booked. However, it would help us greatly if you would ring and cancel your booked appointment in advance, in order that it may be re-used.