



# DEDDINGTON HEALTH CENTRE

## NEWSLETTER

Summer 2014 Edition [www.deddingtonsurgery.co.uk](http://www.deddingtonsurgery.co.uk)

**STOP PRESS** – There is now a weekly delivery of medication to Adderbury Stores. Let Dispensary know if you want your meds delivered there.

### SHINGLES VACCINATIONS 2014

The shingles vaccination campaign which started last year is carrying on this year, and now there is better availability of the vaccine (it was in short supply last year). The campaign is very specifically targeted.

At the moment, there are 2 groups who are eligible to have the vaccination now:

- **Anyone who was born between September 1<sup>st</sup> 1942 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 1943.**
- **Anyone who was born between September 1<sup>st</sup> 1933 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 1934.**

If this applies to you, and you haven't yet had the vaccination – please contact us on **01869 338611** to book an appointment **BEFORE AUGUST 31<sup>st</sup> 2014**. Unfortunately after that date the people in those 2 groups stop being eligible to have the shingles vaccination, as the birth dates of the people who can have the jab move on a year.

From **SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 2014**, the people who can have a shingles vaccination are those whose birthday is:

- **Anyone who was born between September 1<sup>st</sup> 1943 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 1944**
- **Anyone who was born between September 1<sup>st</sup> 1934 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 1935**

We realize this is not straightforward! Unfortunately, it's the way the campaign is being run nationally. Please ring the surgery if you think you may be due a vaccination but are unsure.



### Pneumovax Campaign

Everyone who is 65 years old or older is eligible to have a single pneumovax vaccination, which helps to prevent a particular type of pneumonia. If you are newly 65, or don't think you have had this vaccination in a previous year, please ask whoever you next see at the surgery, and they will give you this one off vaccination. If you don't want the vaccination, please tell us that you are declining it.

### PROBLEMS WITH AVAILABILITY OF SOME MEDICATION

For a while now, there has been national shortages of some medication. Examples of things that have been in short supply and which we are struggling to obtain are:



Valsartan  
Temazepam  
Epipens  
Slow Release Potassium

This is worse for a small company like us than a big national like Boots who can stockpile big quantities of drugs when they become available again. The availability of some drugs varies from month to month, though some drugs have not been available for a year.

So if we can't get hold of your drug, please don't feel that we are being difficult. This is a country wide problem and our staff in the Dispensary spend a lot of time each week ringing around to different wholesalers, trying to get supplies of difficult to access medication. We do then try to find an alternative drug which has to be authorized by your GP before it can be dispensed. The government do not seem to feel this is a problem, but if you are annoyed by not getting the medication you expected, then write to your MP to complain.

## GOOD NEWS GOOD NEWS GOOD NEWS GOOD NEWS GOOD NEWS GOOD NEWS

Our GP trainee – Dr Helen Taylor, has passed her final GP exams and goes back to RAF Benson in August to complete her training. She got married on June 28<sup>th</sup> 2014 and we all hope that she had a very happy wedding day and has a happy marriage afterwards!



### ANOTHER DISPENSARY ISSUE

Please would you ensure that, when you come to collect your medication from our Dispensary, you check that all the items you are expecting are in the bag, before you leave the surgery.

If you have asked someone else to collect your medication for you, then either tell them the number of packets of medication you are expecting, so that they can check that the correct number of packets are there.

Or

Tell the person collecting to ask the Dispensary staff to check on the computer to see that all the medication that you are expecting is in the bag.

There have been several incidences of people complaining that not all their medication is in the bag when it's collected. But there may be more than one bag if medication has been ordered at different times, or if some of the medication is not in stock and has to be ordered.

Dispensary is very busy, there is often a queue of people with requests so the responsibility rests with the patient or their representative to check that they have picked up all the medication due.

### WHEEL CHAIRS WHEEL CHAIRS WHEEL CHAIRS WHEEL CHAIRS WHEEL CHAIRS WHEEL



At the surgery we have several wheel chairs that we make available for patients to borrow for a £20 deposit which is returned to you when you return the wheelchair. If you have got one of our wheelchairs and no longer need it, please remember to return it to the surgery and collect your deposit.

If you have a wheelchair at home that you no longer need and were looking for a home for it, then bring it along to the surgery, and we may be able to take it off your hands.

### ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING SERVICE

A new service is being introduced gradually around the country, called the Electronic Prescribing Service or EPS2. It will be used predominantly by people who are not registered at a dispensing surgery, like ours. It means that when a person is prescribed a medication by their GP, the prescription will go directly to their nominated Pharmacy and no paper prescription will be involved.

In order for EPS2 to work both the Pharmacy receiving the prescription and the surgery sending over the prescription have to have the electronic service 'switched on'.

There is currently no facility for Dispensing Surgeries like ours to have this national electronic prescribing. But most people registered at Deddington already get their prescriptions sent to and dispensed by our Dispensary – so we already have our own electronic prescribing service, but not EPS 2.

However, most Pharmacies in Banbury & Bicester are now switched on at their end for electronic prescribing. Because of this, they are asking people who go into their Pharmacy if you would like to choose them as your 'nominated Pharmacy'. Even if you say 'Yes' you are not able to use this service, because for us – it is not switched on.