

UNDERWOOD SURGERY

NEWSLETTER 10/18

Doctor Mike Skene

We are sadly saying goodbye to Dr Mike Skene as he is leaving the surgery to move to the South West to be nearer his family.

Mike joined the surgery as a GP registrar and after completing his training became a partner at the surgery. We do understand that a large number of patients will be very sad to learn that he will no longer be their doctor; however we will be reallocating his patients to a new GP. Please see below...

Doctor Alexis Wain

We are pleased that Dr Alexis Wain has accepted an appointment as a replacement three quarters partner for Dr Skene. Many of you will already know Alexis as he has been a registrar at the surgery for the last year. We will be allocating Mike Skene's previous patients to Alexis.

Patients are free to consult with any of the GPs in the surgery and we can easily amend your 'usual GP' if you wish—just ask at reception.

Doctor Justin Forbes

We are pleased to announce that Dr Justin Forbes will be joining us as an additional full-time partner for the surgery. Our list size has grown over the last few years and we have been becoming increasingly busy, so we are expanding the number of clinicians. Justin will be joining the surgery in November.

The surgery is very fortunate to have Justin as he is already an experienced Gloucestershire GP. Justin will be building up a list of patients once he has settled into the surgery.

Sister Gill Fillingham

Our District Nurse Gill retired in August this year. Gill has been linked to the surgery for about 28 years and her wealth of experience will be sorely missed.

Unfortunately the surgery will no longer have a Community Team based at 139 St George's Road. However our community nurses are still easily contactable and do visit us on a regular basis

Flu Vaccinations

You may be aware that there has been a delay nationally with the production and distribution of flu vaccinations this year. We will be contacting all patients needing flu vaccinations with an update in the first couple of weeks of October.

We will be running a flu vaccination clinic on the morning of **Saturday 3rd November**.

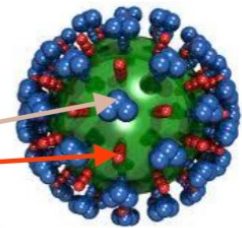
Flu virus

Genetic material (RNA) in the centre

Two surface antigens:

- Haemagglutinin (H) (blue)
- Neuraminidase (N) (red)

There are 18 different types of H and 11 different types of N



Shingles Vaccinations

We have a large number of 70 year olds eligible for a shingles vaccination. We will be encouraging you to have this vaccine when you attend for your annual flu jab.

Improved Access Clinics update - as per our previous newsletter:-



Overton Park Surgery, Overton Park Rd, GL50 3BP

Overton Park Surgery is just off St George's Road, a few minutes' walk towards the town centre from us.

Please ask at reception or see our website for details of our Improved Access clinics at Overton Park.

You can book these appointments for the late afternoon and early evening for many urgent and routine problems.



Health Way Resource Centre
Cassin Drive
Cheltenham
GL51 7SU

This surgery is located opposite Gloucestershire College in West Cheltenham. There is parking and a pharmacy nearby.

We are planning additional clinics for many urgent and routine problems during the day over the winter months starting in November.

INFORMATION FOR CARERS

A CARER IS "SOMEBODY, OF ANY AGE, WHO PROVIDES SUPPORT OR WHO LOOKS AFTER A FAMILY MEMBER, PARTNER OR FRIEND WHO NEEDS HELP BECAUSE OF FRAILTY, PHYSICAL OR MENTAL ILLNESS, OR DISABILITY. THIS WOULD NOT USUALLY INCLUDE SOMEONE PAID OR EMPLOYED TO CARRY OUT THAT ROLE, OR SOMEONE WHO IS A VOLUNTEER."

There are four types of carers:-

- Adults – 62,649 in Gloucestershire (approx. 1 in 10)
- Young carers – 3,692 in Gloucestershire (but estimates suggest there may be up to 7,000 young carers)
- Young adult carers
- Parent carers

What do Carers tell us?

"I never saw myself as a carer because it is my husband...in my vows I said 'in sickness and in health'"

- Early identification is really helpful
- Need to feel valued and respected as an individual but also in discussions about the cared for
- Worried about what happens to the cared for should the carer be unable to care
- Would like better signposting

"GPs also need to inform carers of what specific services are available to Carers. There needs to be consistency throughout the County."

Carers Emergency Scheme

What is your knowledge/experience of this?

- If a carer cannot care due to an emergency
- 24/7 service
- If they have no local network, support worker placed within 2 hours
- Initially for 48 hours – longer care with GCC input
- Assessment carried out when carer referred and also on the day
- Requires medical information of cared for
- Will be an information sharing agreement coming to you
- NHS secure email address

Please visit <https://carersgloucestershire.org.uk/> or phone 0300 111 9000 if you need further information or would like to consider registering as a carer. To access the Emergency Scheme you need to be registered.

ORDERING REPEAT PRESCRIPTIONS WITH SYSTMONLINE

We have recently amended the settings for those patients who request prescriptions online so that you can now select *any* item that has been prescribed in the last six months, not just items that were on repeat. Using SystmOnline is easy. If you are a patient who would like help with how to use SystmOnline, ask in the surgery or please visit our website:

<https://underwoodsurgery.co.uk/prescriptions/systmonline>

The online service enables patients to view their electronic medical record.

SystmOnline also allows patients to:

- Manage appointments
- Request repeat medication
- View previous pathology results

Dr Robin Hollands