

# WASHWAY ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE

## "SURGERY SNIPPETS"

- a newsletter for our patients.

July - September 2013

**"After clean water, vaccination is the most effective public health intervention in the world for saving lives and promoting good health"** [Health Protection Agency at Public Health England]

There have been several changes to the national immunisation programmes and lots of media attention over the last 9 months about re-emergence of vaccine-preventable diseases such as **measles** and **whooping cough** (pertussis).

**WHOOPING COUGH** Pregnant women can provide extra protection against whooping cough for their babies in the first two months of life by having a booster dose of Repevax from 28 weeks of pregnancy. Ask at reception when you check in for your ante-natal clinic appointment. **Whooping cough cases rise at this time of year: if you're 28+ weeks' pregnant, make sure you're protected.**

**MEASLES** There have been **255 confirmed cases of Measles in Greater Manchester during January - June 2013**, compared to 164 cases for the whole of 2012. Highest numbers of measles cases are in **unimmunised children aged 10-14** who may only have attended for 1 dose of MMR vaccine before the age of 5 or whose parents may have organised separate, individual doses of measles, mumps and rubella, privately. We've invited all children up to the age of 18 a booster dose of MMR where records show that they've not received 2 doses of MMR.



Remember also that the **MMR vaccine includes protection against rubella (German Measles)** which, if caught during pregnancy, can cause devastating effects to an unborn child. **If your child is aged 4+ and hasn't received 2 doses of MMR, book their appointment now.** Please note that it is **not** routinely necessary to bring forward toddlers' 2<sup>nd</sup> MMR vaccination dose earlier than 3½ years. If you need further information speak to your health visitor or book a telephone consultation with the practice nurse.

**ROTAVIRUS** This is a **new addition to the child immunisation programme** which protects against the symptoms of diarrhoea and vomiting caused by rotavirus infection. The vaccine is given as drops into the mouth at age 2months and then a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at 3 months, alongside the usual child immunisations. Find out more about protecting your family at [www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations](http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/vaccinations)

## ALL CHANGE IN AUGUST!



to new GP registrar Dr Rachel Forth who joins us for the year under the supervision of Dr Simonton after a 6 month GP pre-registrar placement at Boundary House Medical Centre.

to new GP pre-registrar Dr Emma Wallworth who will be working part-time at the practice under the supervision of Dr Wilkinson and part-time in psychiatry at Trafford General.

Also to our new Foundation Year 2 doctors who are under the supervision of Drs Burgess & Ferguson.



to our current GP registrar Dr Mary Gallagher who's thoroughly enjoyed her year's training with us and will be working in the surrounding area as a locum GP; and Dr Lowri Butcher who leaves us to start her GP training year in another local practice. The feedback from patients has been excellent and we wish them well for their futures.

## FEATURED THIS QUARTER:

**Whooping cough vaccine** for pregnant women

**MMR vaccine**  
2 doses needed for all children up to 18

**Rotavirus vaccine** addition to child immunisation plan

Welcome to our **new doctors in training**

**Breast cancer screening** for our female patients

**FREE healthcare app**

**Shingles vaccine**

**Prescribing requests** from hospitals

**Bank holiday closure** reminder

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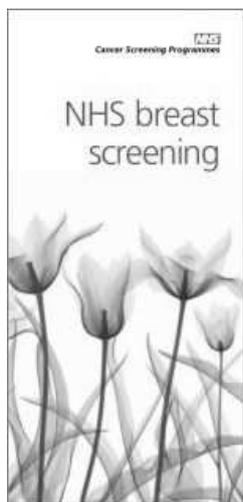
## BREAST CANCER SCREENING

Our **female patients** aged **50 - 70** will be invited for free screening from this autumn at either Wythenshawe or Withington hospitals.

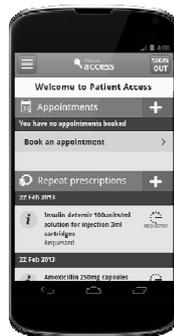
**Please attend when invited.**

Women recently aged 50 will receive their first appointment before their 53rd birthday. However the programme is gradually being extended earlier to women aged 47 to 49 so please attend if you're in this lower age bracket, too.

The 3 yearly screening programme remains available to women over 70. You will not be sent an appointment but can book by calling the unit on 0161 291 4444. Find out more at [www.breast-screening.uhsm.nhs.uk](http://www.breast-screening.uhsm.nhs.uk)



## MOBILE HEALTHCARE



Sign up at reception on production of photo ID, then download your FREE app at [www.patient.co.uk/accessapp](http://www.patient.co.uk/accessapp)

- \* order repeat prescriptions
- \* get up-to-date information about your medical condition
- \* keep yourself well with lifestyle advice & healthy choices

**SHINGLES VACCINE** - will be available free on the NHS starting this Autumn for patients with dates of birth **2/9/1942 - 1/9/43**. There will also be a catch-up programme for patients with dates of birth **2/9/1933 - 1/9/34**. Vaccination is **not** recommended for patients aged 80+. Patients with dates of birth between 1934 - 1942 will be invited in future years.

It is likely we will co-ordinate this alongside our 'flu campaign; more details to follow in the Autumn.

## PRESCRIBING REQUESTS (NHS & private) from HOSPITAL CONSULTANTS & CLINICS

We're happy to deal with hospital requests to prescribe medication by taking a copy of the request and your prescription should be ready for collection by you or your nominated pharmacy **2 working days' later**. We'll contact you if there are any queries or if we are unable to prescribe the item(s).

Some patients ask us to issue these medications urgently, however **all hospital consultants are aware they can issue prescriptions for medications needed urgently before you leave the clinic/ward, so these can be obtained from the hospital pharmacy**. If the hospital pharmacy is closed then you can either attend during their opening hours OR let us deal with the request as a routine matter. Private prescriptions can be taken directly to the hospital pharmacy OR a local community pharmacy OR you can let us deal with the request on the NHS as a routine matter.



**We will not prioritise this prescribing work over patients needing urgent clinical assessment.**

Our staff have been instructed not to book patients urgent appointments for these purposes alone.

**BANK HOLIDAY CLOSURES** The surgery will be closed on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2013**. Should you need **urgent** medical attention that cannot wait until we re-open, services below may be of help:

NHS 111 (24 hour NHS advice line - previously NHS Direct)	dial 111
Trafford Walk-in Clinic (8am - 8pm next to Trafford General A&E dept)	0161 747 4978
Minor injuries unit, Altrincham General Hospital (8am - 8pm Mon - Fri; 10am - 6pm weekends & bank hols)	0161 934 8300
Mastercall ( 24 hour GP out-of-hours service)	0161 476 2299

NHS Choices website at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) gives information about NHS Walk-in Centres open near you.

Don't forget to **ORDER & COLLECT** your repeat prescription before **6:30pm** on **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013**.

**KEEPING YOU INFORMED** - If you've enjoyed reading our newsletter & would like to receive a copy of **SURGERY SNIPPETS** by email each quarter, please return this slip to reception or request via [www.wrmc.org.uk](http://www.wrmc.org.uk)

your name:

& email address: