

CONTACT

KEEPING YOU UP TO DATE THROUGH THE PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP

PRACTICE NEWS

WINTER 2020



Clinical Team

We are pleased to announce the recruitment of new Nurses to the team. Jane Evans started in November and Nikki Reeves will start in January. Meanwhile Nurse Denise Donaldson left the Practice in August.

Trainee GP registrars Dr Anchal Iqbal and Dr Tobiloba Oladopo joined us in December, whilst Dr Yahaya Maiza and Dr Madeeha Anwar have left having completed their training spells with us.

We have also been joined by a new Receptionist, Zofia Denton.

COVID-19 vaccination

The announcement of the imminent distribution of Covid -19 vaccines is very welcome. Whilst much of the timing and details of the processes are not known at the time of writing, GP surgeries will be playing a big role in administering the vaccine.

For distribution reasons, King Edward Road Surgery are working with Primary Care Network practices on arrangements which would see our building be used as a vaccination "Hub" for all the practices, at weekends.

Our Primary Care Network comprises King Edward Road Surgery, Abington Park Surgery,

Abington Medical Centre and Greenview Surgery and Leicester Terrace Health Centre.

Alongside GP surgery "Hubs", the Government are arranging for a number of other sites in Northampton to be vaccination hubs. This is necessary in view of the sheer numbers of people who will need vaccination.

You will be sent invitations when we are ready to give the vaccinations. At the time of writing we have not been notified when they will start.

The NHS had published its list of priority groups. Appointments will be offered in the following order.

1. Older adults' resident in a care home and care home workers
2. All those 80 years of age and over and health and social care workers
3. All those 75 years of age and over
4. All those 70 years of age and over
5. All those 65 years of age and over
6. High-risk adults under 65 years of age
7. Moderate-risk adults under 65 years of age
8. All those 60 years of age and over
9. All those 55 years of age and over
10. All those 50 years of age and over
11. The rest of the population (priority to be determined)

Note: For 6 and 7, definitions of risk are yet to be determined.

Healthcare as usual

In the meantime, the key message is that we are NOT CLOSED. Although we are managing activity carefully you must contact us in the normal way, we will find the best way to help you, whether face to face, on a video call or a telephone call. We can still arrange blood tests and refer you to the hospital if required.

If you wish to offer feedback, we encourage you to go onto NHS choices by following this link <https://www.nhs.uk/services/gp-surgery/king-edward-road-surgery/K83012/leave-a-review/visit-date>.

Your feedback is important to us and praise is greatly appreciated.

Flu vaccinations

We are continuing to deliver seasonal flu vaccinations. The NHS has announced that people aged 50-64 should also now be offered the flu vaccine, as the risk of having flu alongside Covid increases the risk of serious illness significantly. We urge you to book your flu appointment with the Surgery.

If you are in our usual "at risk" groups over 18 years old, there are also still vaccines available for you. We also urge you to book your flu appointment with the Surgery.

Onwards and Upwards

Plans are now well advanced for an extension to the Surgery for more consulting rooms. The NHS is helping us with the costs of adding a new floor to the back of the building where the Administration Team currently work. The new floor will give us 7 more consulting rooms in conjunction with Abington Park Surgery. These new rooms will help us host more GP trainees, more Pharmacists and other clinicians as part of our extended specialist workforce.

Building is expected to start in Spring 2021 and be completed by the end of 2021. We aim to keep disruption in the car park to a minimum.

Improving access

We would like to remind you of two systems which will help you access to GP services.

Doctorlink – Doctorlink is the UK's leading health technology solutions provider offering healthtech solutions where patients can check their symptoms and be directed to the most appropriate care. This will save time waiting on the telephone lines and can also be used outside surgery opening hours. You can sign up by visiting <https://app.doctorlink.com/kingedwardroad/register>

LIVI – Livi lets patients see a GP by video in minutes – on your mobile or tablet. This service is available through KERS and is recommended, especially for on the day complaints, where continuity is not needed. You can sign up by visiting <https://www.livi.co.uk/>

Patient quotes about Livi:

"Lovely doctor and great idea instead of going to the surgery."

"Very helpful advice. Friendly and attentive GP. Quick service. Overall, very impressed."

"I had a long and helpful video consultation within 30 minutes."

KERS Website

Look out for our new website which is launching in December. Our current format is a bit untidy and not easy to navigate. The new one will be much easier to use and help you access more ways of accessing our services in an easier way.

www.kers.org.uk

Goodbye 2020

Everyone at King Edward Road Surgery wishes all our patients a happy Christmas and a healthy and vaccinated new year!

Patient Participation Group

Unfortunately, due to the present situation the PPG are again unable to hold their Christmas Raffle. The raffle has been the main means of fund raising for the Group since its start back in 1991.

We are, as you are aware, a self-funding group. With the funds raised by the raffle each year we have been able to contribute to, or purchase outright, various items required by the surgery which are not funded by the NHS. Because of this we again take the liberty of asking if anyone would care to make a small donation to help boost funds over the coming weeks. Any donations would be very much welcomed.

On behalf of the PPG I would like to take this opportunity to thank those patients who have already made donations.

On behalf of myself and the other members of the PPG, I wish all Patients and Staff a very Happy Christmas.

Muriel James
Chair KERS PPG

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