

New staff

We have great pleasure in announcing two new members of staff to our clinical team.

We would like to give a warm welcome to;

- Dr Aqsa Ali – GP
- Dr Akan Eka – GP

We would also like to welcome back Dr Katie Trathen who has just come back from maternity leave.

Patient Participation Group Meeting Date

Please note the next PPG meeting is;

- Danbury Medical Centre – Wednesday 11th March 2020 at 6.45pm.

To join the Patient Participation Group please leave your name and email address at reception or attend the next meeting. To join the virtual PPG, please visit The Beacon Health Group website. Click on 'Have your say' and then 'Patient Participation Group'.

The Danbury PPG have now launched an email address for patients of Danbury Medical Centre to contact the PPG to share their experiences and with their suggestions for the practice. This enables a broader range of patients to share their views and allows people who cannot attend the meetings the chance to give their feedback. The email contents will be presented anonymously at the PPG meetings. The email address is - ppgdanbury@gmail.com

"State of Caring" survey request from Carers UK

Essex Adult Social Care would like to advise that Carers UK are running their "State of Caring" survey for carers to complete and share their experiences to create as full a picture as possible of people's caring experiences. Please visit the website below to complete the survey.

www.carersuk.org/news-and-campaigns/state-of-caring-survey-2020.

Collecting controlled drugs

Controlled medicines are sometimes misused so they have stricter legal controls on their supply. Just to remind patients collecting controlled drugs that the dispensary have to follow guidelines set out to them so this process will take longer. The controlled drugs are ordered in however they are only dispensed when the patient arrives to collect them. The patient will need to provide photo I.D (e.g. passport or driving licence). If you are collecting on behalf of someone else you may be asked to provide your proof of identity too. We may also confirm with the patient that their medicine is being collected by someone else. The controlled drugs have to be checked by two members of staff and signed out so please bare this in mind when collecting and please be patient with the staff. Due to this longer process, we ask that patients collect their controlled drugs before 6.00pm.

Dosette Boxes

For any dispensing patients struggling with medication we can offer weekly dosette boxes.

Please ask the dispensary team for information.

[Dementia Music Group](#)

From April, a new music group has been set up at Danbury Library for people with Dementia and their carers. The class is held every Monday morning during term time from 10.30-12.00. The class is £5 and refreshments are included.

[DNA's](#)

The Beacon Health Group has sadly had an alarming number of DNA's reported for the month of February 2020. **A total of 263 patients did not attend their appointments.** This averages approx. 13 appointments a day. Please remember to cancel an appointment by phone or text message if it is no longer needed to allow other patients the opportunity of using the appointment.

If you are happy to consent to receive SMS text messages and emails from The Beacon Health Group, please complete the SMS Text Messaging & Email Consent Form which is available from reception or alternatively you can download a copy from The Beacon Health Group website. Click on 'New Patients' and then 'Patient Consent'.

[Coronavirus](#)

Following advice from Mid Essex CCG to prevent the risk of Coronavirus entering the surgery

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE BUILDING IF YOU HAVE

- Recently travelled
- Or are in close contact with someone with confirmed coronavirus.
- Or are experiencing any of the following symptoms
 - a cough
 - a high temperature
 - shortness of breath

If you have any of the symptoms above and have recently travelled or have been in close contact with someone with a confirmed case of Coronavirus, please stay indoors and avoid close contact with people and contact NHS 111.

NHS 111 has an online Coronavirus service that can tell you if you need medical help and advises you what to do.

If you contact us by phone clearly outline your travel history and your symptoms.

As online appointments are booked without knowledge of the patients symptoms we have taken the advice of Mid Essex CCG to no longer allow online appointment bookings.

To help prevent the spread of Coronavirus please;

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- always wash your hands when you get home or into work
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

Thank you for your co-operation.