

Autumn 2023



Edition
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NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

We hope you find this newsletter helpful in keeping you up to date with what's happening in the Network and also some local activities and charities. If you'd like to contribute a picture, a comic, a poem or something else entirely that we could include in our next edition please be sure to send them onto sally.oldbury@nhs.net.

WELL WOMAN CLINICS

Our PCN have funded special well women clinics in each of our practices as a one stop shop to help patients ensure they are up to date with the cancer screening available to them as well as a check on their heart health. This dedicated clinic time has given patients who were over due cancer screening to feel comfortable to talk over their concerns and feel comfortable to have the test performed.



If overdue, do call your practice to book a Well Woman appointment.

PATIENT VIEWPOINT GROUP

Our next networkwide Patient Viewpoint Group meeting will be held on 27th October 2023 at 2pm on MS Teams which will help us update you with our projects to date and our plans for the PCN.

We're always looking for people to help shape our services and make them even better! Why not join us – it only takes a few hours a year.

If you are interested, please contact our communications lead, Sally, by email on sally.oldbury@nhs.net know and we will ask for feedback on our plans a few times a year.



New moves. New foods.
New habits. We've got ideas
to get you started today.
Get help and support at
[nhs.uk/BetterHealth](https://www.nhs.uk/BetterHealth)

WHAT IS A PRIMARY CARE NETWORK?

The Tolson Care Partnership Primary Care Network (Tolson PCN) is based in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, and we are made up of eight GP surgeries, with a combined patient list size of approximately 50,000. If you are a patient of The Waterloo Practice, The Whitehouse Centre, The University Health Centre, The Almondbury Surgery, Dalton Surgery, Greenhead Family Doctors, The Junction Surgery or Rose Medical Practice you are covered by Tolson PCN.

Please visit www.tolsonpcn.nhs.uk
or email kirkccg.tolsonpcn@nhs.net

PARAMEDIC FCPS

We're happy to welcome two new additions to our PCN team — FCP (First Contact Practitioners) Paramedics, Kate and Liz.

These experienced Paramedics have done extra training to be able to see patients with acute problems, alongside our GPs.

Next time you call your practice you may be offered an appointment with Kate or Liz. Rest assured, they are skilled practitioners and will always be able to consult with the GP if needed about your symptoms and treatment plan.

Your GP reception team will be able to advise if the FCP Paramedics are the best person to see you based on your symptoms.

EVENING & WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS

We've been offer evening and weekend appointments at other practices in the Network for a while now and the uptake is good. Sadly more patients fail to attend these appointments compared to appointments at their own practice. As this service is valuable we are

keen to reduce the number of wasted appointments and would like to hear from patients who didn't attend as to why that was. If you receive a questionnaire link about a missed appointment, it is from us, so safe to click on, and we'd like to know how to make it easier for people to attend and find out the reasons why they may not.



FLU & COVID VACCINATIONS BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER 2023

Watch out for messages from your practice about their arrangements for vaccination clinics SOON!

NEED HELP WITH BILLS?

Times are tough so our Social Prescribing Team are working hard helping patients with ensuring they are claiming all the benefits they are entitled to, help with accessing food banks and free activities for families.

They can also help with filling out forms, housing

and furniture needs, as well as advising on local walking groups, luncheon clubs and volunteering opportunities.

If you think you'd benefit from a chat with our Social Prescribing Team, Kulvinder and Emma, please ask your reception team to refer you.

PLANNED CLOSURES

Your practice will be closed for the Bank Holidays on;

- ◇ Monday 25th December
- ◇ Tuesday 26th December
- ◇ Monday 1st January 2024

Please order your medications in good time during busy bank holiday periods.

Our half day closures for protected learning time are:

- ◇ 19th September 1-6pm
- ◇ 17th October 1-6pm
- ◇ 21st November 1-6pm
- ◇ 19th December 1-6pm

When your surgery is closed please call 111 to access a local GP urgently.

I use the NHS App to view my GP medical record

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