

## Barnabas MC PPG

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**From:** Barnabas MC PPG <barnabas.ppg@gmail.com>  
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**Subject:** Barnabas PPG Monthly Bulletin, November  
**Attachments:** Annual\_Report\_2013.pdf; Contact\_Meeting\_Minutes\_20131025.pdf; NAPP\_Ebulletin October 2013.pdf; NAPP\_Newsletter\_Autumn\_2013.pdf; NHS\_caredata.pdf

To All Barnabas PPG Members ...  
(Printed copies to those without email)

Welcome to the November monthly bulletin for Barnabas PPG members.

[If you can't read any of the attached documents, or need printed copies of anything mentioned, please tell me and I'll try to send you a copy.]

### November PPG Meeting

Our next Meeting is on **Monday 11 November**, 1800 hrs at the Medical Centre. This is our first AGM and we also hope to have someone from Ealing CCG to speak about the 111 service.

The Agenda will be:

1. Introductions
2. Minutes of the Last Meeting
3. Chairman's Annual Report
4. 111 Presentation
5. Annual Practice Survey
6. Setting up Local Support Groups
7. Practice Updates
8. PPG Updates
9. AOB

### Annual Report

As you will see from the meeting agenda above, I have written a short, but formal, Annual Report of the PPG's activities. This first report covers the period from our start in February 2012 to the end of last month. A copy of the report is attached and there will be an opportunity to discuss it at the meeting.

### Meeting Dates & Venues for 2014

I have finally been able to fix the dates and venues for next year's meetings. The dates are:

Tuesday 14 January, 1400 hrs, St Barnabas Church Hall  
Monday 10 March, 1800 hrs, Barnabas Medical Centre  
Tuesday 13 May, 1400 hrs, St Barnabas Church Hall  
Monday 14 July, 1800 hrs, Barnabas Medical Centre  
Tuesday 16 September, 1400 hrs, St Barnabas Church Hall  
Monday 10 November, 1800 hrs, Barnabas Medical Centre (AGM)

Please put these dates in your new diary.

### PPG/Practice Manager Contact Meeting

Paul and I had our regular contact meeting on 25 October although it was brief as we both had time constraints. The minutes are attached.

### PPG Projects

As you will see from the minutes of the Contact Meeting we are now underway with two new projects.

Lyn Duffus and Jacqui Piper have taken on the task of reviewing and keeping tidy the noticeboards, leaflet displays and magazines in the waiting area. Initially they are planning to visit the medical centre to do this once a fortnight. If anyone has suitable magazines for the waiting area, please drop them off at reception and they will be given to Lyn and Jacqui.

A team is also working on setting up a book exchange in the waiting area. The idea is to make books (including children's books) available for patients to read while they wait, borrow and return, or take and replace with another. This will provide an alternative to magazines and help with adult and children's literacy. Once a couple of small bookshelves are installed expect to see books appearing. And if you have suitable books for the book exchange then please drop them off at reception and they will be passed to the team.

### Sharing Your NHS Records

A couple of weeks ago NHS England and the Health & Social Care Information Centre set out the next steps to raise public awareness about care.data – a programme that will use information to improve the safety and care of patients. A copy of the announcement from the NHS England website is attached, and can also be found online at [www.england.nhs.uk/2013/10/16/care-data/](http://www.england.nhs.uk/2013/10/16/care-data/).

I know this data sharing is something which worries many people but it is important to note that this information sharing will be done without reference to your name and in such a way that the information will not identify you personally.

Expect to see much more on this over the coming months, especially as the plan is that every household in England will receive an explanatory leaflet during January. Note also that this is a different initiative from either the project to give us all online access to our medical records or the work to make our records accessible to all healthcare providers (not just our GP but A&E, urgent care, hospitals, etc.).

### **Healthwatch Ealing Weekly Flash**

HWE are continuing to send out a weekly news flash by email. As before I'm not attaching copies here so as not to flood you with too much information. Most recent copies can be found on the Healthwatch website at [www.healthwatchealing.co.uk/flash-healthwatch-ealing](http://www.healthwatchealing.co.uk/flash-healthwatch-ealing).

### **Access to GPs**

One piece of work which the "GP interest group" of Healthwatch Ealing are doing, and which I am involved in, is to understand what prevents people getting access to a local GP (eg. a lack of appointments, inability to register with a practice, language barriers). We are working to find evidence, both in existing data and by collecting our own survey data. So if you have any good examples of where you (or someone you know) has not been able to see a GP, please let me know (anonymously if you wish). Having gathered evidence we will be producing a report and recommending possible remedies. The aim is to complete this work by the end of February.

Other questions which Healthwatch want to address are: what stops patients getting from their GP to specialist/secondary care, and why do so many people go to A&E when they shouldn't need to? (These three questions may, of course, be related – but we really don't know yet.)

### **NAPP eBulletin**

The October eBulletin from NAPP is attached. As usual this contains brief information on a number of useful and interesting initiatives.

Also available this month from NAPP is their quarterly newsletter, *Patients Matter*. A copy is attached to this email.

[In the interests of saving paper and postage printed copies are not included with posted versions of this bulletin. If you would like a printed copy, please get in touch and I will send you one.]

### **Shaping a Healthier Future**

I can't end this month's bulleting without saying something about *Shaping a Healthier Future*. Many of you will know from the news that the Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt, announced last week his decision on the NW London NHS proposals for the reorganisation of A&E services provided by our local hospitals. While largely supporting the proposals Jeremy Hunt however said:

"... further work is required before a final decision can be made about the range of services to be provided from the Ealing and Charing Cross hospital sites.

*Because the process to date has already taken four years, causing considerable and understandable local concern, I have today decided it is time to end the uncertainty. Therefore, while I accept the need for further work, as the IRP suggests, I have decided that the outcome should be that Ealing and Charing Cross hospitals should continue to offer an A and E service, even if it is a different shape or size from that currently offered."*

[Quote from *Hansard* for 30 October]

While this appears to be good news for Ealing Hospital, it is clear that at this stage no-one knows what exactly "a different size or shape" means. Only time will tell what the "further work" produces.

**Next PPG Meeting:** Monday 11 November, 1800 hrs at the Medical Centre (details above).

All our meetings are open to anyone who is a patient, the carer of a patient or a member of staff of Barnabas Medical Centre.

There is so much more happening in the NHS at the moment and I seem to be being asked to take part in another consultation every week! But that's enough for this month.

Keith

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