

## Barnabas PPG

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**From:** Barnabas PPG <barnabas.ppg@gmail.com>  
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**To:** Barnabas PPG  
**Subject:** Barnabas PPG Monthly Bulletin, October  
**Attachments:** PPG\_Minutes\_20171003.pdf; Strengthening\_PPG.PDF; PPG\_Log.pdf; Falls-leaflet-A5\_2pp-Sept-2017.pdf; Ebulletin SEP 2017.pdf

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To All Barnabas PPG Members ...  
[Printed copies to those PPG members without email]

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

Welcome to the October bulletin for Barnabas PPG members.

### **PPG Meeting – 3 October, Minutes**

Attached are the minutes of our meeting on 3 October. Please read them as they do contain important information, especially on our discontent with NHS communications.

### **PPG Meeting – 4 December**

Our next meeting is on Monday 4 December, 1800 hrs at St Barnabas Church Hall. This will be our AGM, so will include a review of the year and the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. We should also have someone from Ealing CCG to talk to us about self-care. I will include a full agenda in next month's bulletin.

### **PPG Membership Validation**

It is good practice that from time to time we review our membership list. So in the next few weeks I will be contacting everyone (by email or post) asking that you reply if you wish to remain on our membership list. So watch this space!

### **Meet the Patients**

We will be in the waiting area again on the morning of Tuesday 24 October for our monthly "meet the patients" session. If anyone can volunteer to help with this, between 0900 and 1200 it would be appreciated; please get in touch. Or do stop by and say hello.

### **Strengthening the PPG**

As you'll see from the meeting minutes, one of the areas I've looked at recently is some of the good things that other PPGs do which contribute to Practice excellence. Attached is a list of the things I've picked up which we potentially could do, but which we currently don't. It is a long and rather daunting list, but **I need your help to whittle it down to a manageable number of activities we could concentrate on. Please read the document and tell me (by 6 November) the six items you would most like us to work on.** I will then collate the responses and start building a plan in time for our December meeting.

### **PPG Activity Log**

Again looking at the meeting minutes, you will see that I have created a list of all the items we have raised, and their current status (red, amber or green). My hope is that this can become the basis for both PPG meetings, and my meetings with the Practice, to track our progress. This is currently still in a draft form, and has not been reviewed with the practice, but I wanted to share it with you.

### **Patient Hints & Tips**

We are now beginning, slowly, to collect together some notes on your experiences of treatments or procedures, so that we can provide them (anonymously!), via the practice website, as a help for others. So if you've had a particular treatment or procedure (like, for example, hip replacement, colonoscopy, started on anti-coagulants or insulin, needed hearing aids) please write some notes on your experience and any hints or tips, and drop them in the repeat prescription box or email them to me (with you contact details, in case we need to clarify anything). I will then put all these together for the benefit of other patients.

### **What to do if you are worried about your balance or falling?**

We have previously highlighted local sessions on Strength & Balance, but now the local council has produced a flyer of helpful advice and contact information covering a lot more than just the Strength and Balance classes. A copy is attached.

### **Nine in 10 GPs rated good or outstanding**

CQC have largely completed their first round of GP practice inspections. Although the inspectors have found areas that need improving at one in seven practices, many of them are minor and overall 90% of practices have been rated "good" or "outstanding". News report at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-41339792>.

#### **Ex-NHS chief backs doctors' warning over ID checks on patients**

You may have seen that the government is trying to make all healthcare services check patients' ID to determine who is and is not entitled to free NHS treatment. Needless to say many healthcare professionals, and the organisations who represent them, are resisting on the grounds that they are not immigration officers. News report at

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/oct/11/ex-nhs-chief-backs-doctors-warning-id-checks-patients>.

#### **NHS patients to be asked about sexuality**

Similarly NHS clinicians are being told they have to ask patients about their sexuality and sexual orientation, as there is a belief that this is required to comply with equality and discrimination legislation. And again many healthcare professionals are resisting as, in many instances, they see this as an inappropriate intrusion. Of course, as patients, we have the right to decline to provide this information – as I imagine many of us will. News report at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-41625402>.

#### **NAPP eBulletin**

The latest (September) eBulletin from NAPP is attached. As usual it contains a number of items which I have not covered above.

More next month!

Keith

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