

Keith Marshall

From: Barnabas Patient Voices <keith@barnabasvoices.org.uk>
Sent: 03 January 2023 11:40
To: Barnabas Patient Voices
Subject: Barnabas Patient Voices Monthly Update, January
Attachments: BPV_Minutes_20221116.pdf; Community Partner Role Flyer.pdf; In_Touch_135.pdf; CQC_202212.pdf

To All [Barnabas Patient Voices](#) Members ...

[Printed copies to those members without email]

[A copy will also be posted on our Facebook group and website]

[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 January update for [Barnabas Patient Voices](#) members. There isn't too much this month due to the Christmas & New Year holidays.

Happy New Year to everyone!

Here's hoping we all get a better 2023 than we had for the previous three years.

First of all a reminder to

*** [Please complete the short survey on our 2023-2025 Plan at](#)
<https://forms.gle/PF9NMezeLSSh5N5U9> ***

Coronavirus, Flu etc.

Sadly it isn't over yet! There is still a lot of Covid around and a lot of flu, as well as colds etc. The [Zoe Covid Study](#) is currently estimating that there are over 3.3million (that's around 1 in 20 people) currently infected with Covid, with around 220,000 new infections daily. In addition the latest [UKHSA data](#) (from just before Christmas) is showing roughly the same level of flu as there is Covid. We know from the media reports (based on NHS data) that there are many in hospital with either flu or Covid and that this, along with staff sickness and delays in discharge of patients, is putting enormous pressure on hospitals. There's a *Guardian* article from a few days ago which looks a quite [why Britain is so ill](#). However the government seem to have totally given up on Covid as from today the ONS are apparently stopping regular reporting of Covid numbers.

As if that wasn't enough there are a number of new variants (mostly derived from the Omicron variant) which are coming to prominence. Variant BQ.1.1 had become dominant, displacing BA.5; in turn it is now being challenged by CH.1.1 and XBB.1.5. It isn't yet clear what are the implications of these new variants, but the Covid virus is not sitting still and will continue to mutate quickly while we have the current level of infection.

On top of all this, there continues to be concern at the level of Group A Streptococcus infections. While this is generally a fairly mild infection, it can be dangerous and cause issues such as Scarlet Fever (mostly in children). For more information see [this from UKHSA](#).

Barnabas Patient Voices News

Plan for Activity in 2023-2025 – Reminder

We need to be planning our activity over the next two years (beginning 1 April 2023). To do this we need to understand what you would like us, and the Practice, to do and include in the plan. If you've not already done so, please would you take around 5 minutes to complete the short survey at <https://forms.gle/PF9NMezeLSSh5N5U9>. The survey will remain open until Sunday 8 January 2023. I expect to bring the results of the survey to the meeting on 17 January, and then a draft plan to the March meeting.

Please complete the survey!

Next Meeting

Our next 2-monthly meeting is on Tuesday 17 January; 10:00; on Zoom.

The agenda for the meeting is likely to be:

1. Introductions & Apologies
2. Approve Minutes of November Meeting [copy attached]
3. 2023-2025 Plans: Survey Results
4. Members Feedback
5. Practice Updates
6. Other PPG Updates
7. Matters Arising, AOB

The Zoom information for all our meetings this year is:

Meeting

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7279594414?pwd=VmYwODdoWGg2eTFvTlVjVlZyRmhSQTO9>

Meeting ID: 727 959 4414

Passcode: 149417

Please do attend if you can.

Informal Calls

We are continuing with our monthly, 30-minute, informal calls this year. The next call is on Thursday 26 January; 10:00; on Zoom. The Zoom link is the same as above. Do join us for an informal chat and a catch-up.

Practice News

Barnabas Bulletin

The December issue of the Practice's newsletter, *Barnabas Bulletin*, is available. You can find a copy on our website at <https://barnabasvoices.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/BB33.pdf>. The next issue is due out in March. If anyone has ideas for articles then please get in touch.

Practice Staff

As you will see from the minutes of the November meeting, the Practice have recruited a number of additional staff.

Dr Rebecca Carey is now off on maternity leave; she is planning to be back with us in the Autumn. We wish her, and her baby, well.

Local Healthcare News

Patient Experience Research Centre

Imperial College Patient Experience Research Centre are looking for people who live, work or study in North West London and who are passionate about sharing their lived experience of health to become Community Partners to help improve research and the health of the North West London community. There's a lot more information at <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/patient-experience-research-centre/ppi/community-partner/>; a flyer is also attached. But do note that you have only a few days remaining in which to apply.

General NHS & Healthcare News

Medical Terms

Some common medical terms may be confusing. [Our Health Our Knowledge](https://www.ourhealthourknowledge.org) has some useful interpretations at <https://www.ourhealthourknowledge.org/glossary>.

Newsletters

Here's my usual round-up of useful newsletters received.

- NHS In Touch #135 – copy attached
 - CQC newsletter, December 2022 – copy attached
 - Patient Voice (magazine of Patients Association) is online at <https://bit.ly/3Q8RMnO> and contains lots of interesting stuff.
 - PPG UK News – Michael Lally of Upton Village Surgery PPG in Chester has started a newsletter of items of PPG interest; the introductory issue is online at <https://bit.ly/3vyoLsl>.
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That's all for this month. Stay well.

Keith

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