## PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP MEETING Held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2025

- 1. Staff Training and Development
- New receptionist recruited, bringing reception team to full capacity
- Treatment room operating at full capacity
- Dr Paula Ekin appointed, starting Wednesdays and Friday afternoons ("started with us last Wednesday")
- Dr Parvin increasing sessions to include Friday mornings
- Staffing levels currently stable across all departments
- 2. Healthcare Access and Service Delivery
- Pharmacy referral programme showing positive outcomes:
- Increased from 78 referrals in September to 158 in February
- Seven specific conditions being referred to local pharmacists
- Reception staff received specific training from regional pharmacists
- Only two patients returned for GP consultation after pharmacy referral
- Strong collaborative relationships with local pharmacies established
- Regular meetings between practice pharmacists and local pharmacies occurring every 6-8 weeks
- 3. Appointment Management
- DNA (Did Not Attend) statistics for 2024:
- Overall DNA rate: 1.4% of appointments (1,290 appointments)
- Face-to-face appointments: 2% DNA rate
- Nurse appointments: 4% DNA rate
- Pre-bookable face-to-face: 3.6% DNA rate (329 appointments)
- Action plan implemented to reduce DNAs including patient reminders and mobile cancellation options
- 4. Telephone System Performance
- Call volumes:
- January: 8,700 calls
- February: 8,100 calls
- Call-back facility being utilised effectively
- Average abandoned call time: 37-40 seconds
- Plans to modify initial message to encourage use of call-back facility
- Practice hosts prescribing hub for PCN, impacting overall call statistics
- 5. COVID-19 and Vaccination Programme
- COVID booster vaccinations planned for over 75s in next two weeks
- Flu vaccination programme completed
- Next flu vaccination programme to commence October 2025
- 6. Contract and Funding Updates
- New one-year contract announced
- Awaiting detailed funding information
- Protection from National Insurance increase to 15% under discussion
- Potential impact of £35,000-40,000 in costs if protection not confirmed
- R roles funding increased but restricted to first two years of training
- Five-year contract negotiations expected within next six months

- 7. Practice Development

- Trialling Al transcription system for meeting minutes
  Staff training occurs Wednesdays 12:00-14:00
  Emergency contact number provided during closure periods
  Regular PPG engagement maintained
- Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 5.30 p.m. on Zoom.