



## Covid second wave

Our Chief Nurse has published a presentation reminding us all on how we need to protect ourselves, colleagues and patients. This is with practice managers. We are working with our CCGs on winter/second wave planning including Covid visiting car and the other support services.

## Congratulations to David Brandon

David is Clinical Lead at Clements in Haverhill and is in Pulse as an unsung GP for his work during Covid and before that shoring up two struggling surgeries.

Separately, Matt Hancock has nominated the Clements surgery in Haverhill as his nominee for the NHS Parliamentary Awards 'NHS Futures' category.

## Mental health update

Since 2018, the Fed has been contributing, alongside partners, to the development of a new plan for mental health services in Suffolk led by our CCGs. The length of time this has taken obviously reflects the scale of the local challenge. The CCGs are running events over the next few months to explain the new plan.

**Dr David Brandon**



## Cervical screening – evening and weekends

The Fed has successfully bid, on behalf of PCNs, for funding to improve the take-up of cervical smears amongst three groups (women 25-49), with special needs, disabilities and mental health and LD, and BAME communities. The plan is to run targeted publicity campaigns using Facebook and working with partners focusing on the other communities.

Screening will be available evening and weekend via GP+. It will start from Riverside Clinic in Ipswich prioritising the 25-49 age group on Tuesdays and Thursdays 6.30pm – 9pm and Saturdays and Sundays 9am – 5pm. It will then then expand to other GP+ sites.

In the New Year we will hold sessions for specific groups for example sessions for patients with LD with a specialist nurse present.

Patients book an appointment by calling their practice and reception booking into GP+ in the usual way.

## We are recruiting an Associate Urgent Care Medical Director – 4 to 9 sessions

To provide leadership for our workforce and develop ED Streaming and GP+ services. One day per week clinical leadership/service development and at least the same time working in Out of Hours, GP+ or ED Streaming.

This is an exciting opportunity for a local GP who is looking for a development opportunity and support to move into a medical director role in the future.



## Are you approaching retirement and considering your options?

Are you within five years of taking your pension and starting to think about your future options? In which case, this workshop on 24 November at 7pm via Zoom might be of interest. The workshop will consist of local GPs who have taken on different roles such as those who have become a locum, joined the GP Retainer Scheme or developed a portfolio career.

If you are interested in joining the workshop or would like further information please contact us at [info@thegphub.org.uk](mailto:info@thegphub.org.uk)

## Welcome Back to Work Scheme

Are you or do you know someone who is thinking about returning to work in general practice after a break and feeling daunted or even overwhelmed by the thought? Are you interested to meet others who have already made the transition with our support?

Welcome Back to Work provides tailored support that is unique and personal to your circumstances. It is available for GPs on the Performers List in Suffolk and North East Essex and is delivered by Dr. Lucy Henshall and Penny Flack. Find out more at [www.welcomebacktowork.co.uk](http://www.welcomebacktowork.co.uk) or view this 60 second video [http://youtu.be/OH\\_H1thTJrA](http://youtu.be/OH_H1thTJrA)

## Kirkley Mill - good news

We are really pleased that management of the practice will be transferring to a local partnership, Rosedale, at the end of October.

The Fed has managed Kirkley, which is in Lowestoft, since November 2017. It is in the most deprived part of Lowestoft and had been managed by a succession of different providers. When we took it on it had been put in Special Measures by the CQC, was threatened with immediate closure and no local providers were willing to take it on.

Over the last three years there has been a team effort to turn the practice around. This resulted in a CQC Good rating. The Fed Board decided it was now the right time for it to return to local primary care. We are leaving the practice with a brilliant team.

## Podiatry coding in your SystemOne unit - apologies

It has come to our attention that our podiatry service template was adding problem title codes to your clinical records. This has now been addressed.

## GP+ bases reopening

Riverside, Drovers House (Bury), Sudbury, Haverhill, Wickham Market and Stowmarket have now reopened. Felixstowe and Newmarket reopen on 1 October and Mildenhall on the 10th.

GP+ offers evening and weekend appointments. It operates similarly to daytime general practice i.e. phone assessments and face to face appointments when necessary.

If you are interested in working in the service we are recruiting GPs and ANPs for the reopened bases. We offer salaried contracted hours (or sessional roles) with 15 minute appointments. Pay rates are the same as our other services (GP £80ph & ANP £38ph). If you would like to know more or book an induction/SystemOne training please contact us via [suffolkfedhr@nhs.net](mailto:suffolkfedhr@nhs.net) and someone will call you.

## GP Support Hub

The Hub has been open through Covid providing confidential information, advice and support on career, personal development and well-being. Over the next few months it is going to focus on seven areas of support:

- First5 groups – supporting our next generation.
- GPs moving to the area
- To locums who may be struggling for work.
- To ensure newly qualifying GPs with visa requirements are able to stay and work locally.
- Get a virtual 'Wise5' group going for those coming towards the end of their career but who are interested in to continue working.
- Providing options for those considering retirement such as GP Retainer Scheme.
- Refreshing the local Locum Chambers' model.
- Explore if the Hub can be expanded to cover practice nurses.

## GP+ from 1 April 2021

This will move to PCNs from the CCGs. We have worked with members to develop a more local and flexible offer. The Fed is happy to continue providing the service if PCNs want this. Each PCN can decide about bases and how its appointment slots are used. If there is sufficient interest, the Fed will launch a late home visiting service using GP+. This would be for those occasional tricky visits that come in late afternoon.