



PPG Tabled Questions 18-03-2019

1. a) Is the practice considering the prospect of an onsite Physiotherapist?

With the introduction of the new GP Contract, a DES (Direct Enhanced Service) payment will be made available to support practices working together as Primary Care Networks.

Through the DES, each network will be funded from 2019-20 to employ at least one social prescribing link worker and one clinical pharmacist. By 2023-24 funding will be available to employ an extra 22 000 members of the primary care workforce across England, including physician associates, practice based physiotherapists, paramedics, and others.

Paxton Green has already started to employ other non-medical practitioners (such as Physician Associates and Practice Pharmacist). Once plans have been agreed for the new Primary Care Network structure, we will work with our partners to ensure that full use is made of all primary care resources available. This is likely to include physiotherapists.

b) Would the Practice consider having a Mental health therapist on site again?

Please see response above. Practice staffing will be determined based on need and available resources, in conjunction with our future Primary Care Network partners. In principle the practice is committed to the idea of the most appropriate clinician being available to assess and treat patients and mental health workers will be considered accordingly.

2. What is the procedure for patients to book a podiatry appointment at the Practice, both for those who have online access and those who don't?

Paxton Green has been one of the few practices to offer Podiatry appointments that are directly bookable by patients. The existing service was originally run by Southwark CCG (and its predecessors) and is now provided by Guys and St Thomas' (GSTT) NHS Trust. It has been reduced over the years from five days a week to one day per week. The service will end in April 2019.

The Practice has no control over the appointment dates that are made available to patients – GSTT contacts our administrator who simply adds the clinic to our system.



Patients cannot book a podiatry appointment on line. There is a self-referral system for podiatry that works well (details available from Reception).

3. When a patient is discharged from the Hospital@Home team, what procedure is put in place to arrange follow up care at the Practice?

The service from which the Patient is being discharged (i.e. District Nurses or @Home Team), normally sends a discharge notification to the GP. If the GP is required to change medication or refer-on to another service, this will be arranged by the practice. If there are no actions for the GP then it would be up to the patient to make contact with the practice to discuss any other health issues they are experiencing.

Dr Stephen Miller 18 March 2019