

To all patients registered with Chawton Park Surgery Alton

Dear Patient

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as Chair of the Chawton Park Surgery Patients Participation Group (PPG).

Since April 2015, it has been a contractual requirement of NHS England for all GP practices to have a PPG and to make reasonable efforts for this to be representative of the practice population. A Patient Participation Group (PPG) is a group of volunteer patients, carers registered with the practice, and GP practice staff who meet to discuss practice issues and patient experience to improve the service.

Unquestionably, we face difficult and challenging times. The past 18 months has not only put huge pressure on our health and social welfare systems, but has brought in to sharp focus, the need to work even closer on developing and nurturing a supportive, cohesive and closer knit community.

As an Alton resident, I am proud to be associated with our practice and firmly believe that we all have a part to play in ensuring full support is given to our National Health Service and to all those who work within the organisation.

As the newly elected chair of our PPG, I am conscious of the fact that such groups wouldn't function without the help and support of volunteers who can bring to the table, a wide range of experience, expertise and most importantly, enthusiasm. Sustaining any volunteer group is in itself a real challenge today and I know only too well that we often have to rely on that small dedicated team to carry things forward. I am appealing to you as the patients to consider how you could help us develop and move through the "unknown unknowns" that lie ahead. We are very keen to recruit new members to the PPG and would ask that you consider putting your name forward. We will be running an introductory welcome session at the surgery for those of you who are interested. Details and times of the session will be sent out later to those of you who contact us.

Contact details :

E Mail : ppg.chawtonparksurgery@nhs.net

By post : The Patients Participation Group
Chawton Park Surgery
Chawton Park Rd
ALTON GU34 1RJ

Please do not ring the surgery with questions relating to the PPG as the reception team will be busy dealing with other patient requests. Thank you.

With very best wishes and hoping you all remain in good health

Ian Saunders
Chair