

**BELSIZE PRIORY MEDICAL PRACTICE  
MINUTES OF PPG MEETING  
27 March, 2018**

<b>Present:</b>	
Name	Title
Dr Nabila Hanosh	General Practitioner
Mrs Maryla Wood	Practice Manager
Miss Zena Al-Tamimi	Apprentice Administrator
Miss S O	PPG Member
Mr G N	PPG Member
Mrs A A	PPG Member
Father J A	PPG Member
CH	Cancer UK representative
J	Trainee GP

<b>REVIEW AGENDA</b>	
	1. Improving statistics for Cancer screening in Borough of Camden
	2. Ways in which to promote Cancer screening
	3. Introduction of Physician Associate
	4. New positions in General Practice
	5. Closing points

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<p><b>1. Improving Statistics for Cancer Screening in Borough of Camden</b></p>	<p>CH and J began by introducing themselves. J as a trainee doctor who is involved in promoting the importance of cancer screening and CH being a representative for Cancer Research UK.</p> <p>Cancer screening statistics are at a record low in Camden at 55%, which is 30% lower than the National Target. Encouraging the younger age group to get involved with the three national cancer screening programmes (breast, bowel and cervical cancer) is proving to be a challenge as the statistics for this age group is the lowest.</p> <p>Emphasis on cervical cancer screening especially, needs be addressed as the early detection and treatment is so important and makes a real difference.</p> <p>Emphasis on the statistics for Bengali and Somali women was made as very few of the women in this ethnicity go for a screening. PPG member AA has many Somali friends; she thinks that it comes down to lack of education- the importance of doing these screenings is not known very well to her friends. These women also have not been comforted on the process – they think it would be uncomfortable or even painful so stay clear of the screening procedure. Furthermore some do not trust nurses and would only like a doctor to perform the procedure, which may not always be accessible to the women’s GP’s as some GP practices do not offer the service.</p>

<p><b>2. Ways In which to promote cancer screening</b></p>	<p>There is a charity called Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust that raises awareness through campaigns. They have a website which offers advice, guidance and support. You can also get involved with the charity via their website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website details for Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust : <a href="https://www.jostrust.org.uk">https://www.jostrust.org.uk</a></li> <li>• ZA to learn more on how to get involved and to hang up posters and print off leaflets for waiting room</li> </ul> <p>NHS England sends automated letters to women at certain ages to encourage them to book their screening.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The target age groups are <b>29-49 every 3x years</b> and <b>50-64 every 5x years</b>)</li> <li>• These letters are in the patient's personal language.</li> </ul> <p>This is a universal issue and needs to be treated like one, by campaigners getting more involved with all ethnicities.</p> <p>A suggestion to hand out some posters in the local Mosques could make a big difference</p> <p>PPG member AA volunteered to spread the importance of cancer screening with simple word of mouth around her community.</p> <p>Promoting awareness of how skilled nurses are in carrying out cervical screenings – to make more women more comfortable and to have peace of mind things are safe and are not painful.</p> <p>Putting more pressure on General Practice to promote screening by word of mouth of the doctors, recalls by receptionists and helpful guides and posters in the waiting rooms of the practices in Camden.</p> <p>J and CH were thanked for their short presentation and left the meeting.</p>
<p><b>3. Introduction of Physician Associate</b></p>	<p>MW began discussion with introducing the new Physician Associate, Mr Iftheqar Siddiqui . She explained he is of a higher position than a nurse but is not a prescriber and works in general practice as a clinician. He will have 9 sessions a week so much more appointments will be made available.</p>

<p><b>4. New positions in General Practice</b></p>	<p>New structures in General practice are being implemented more and more to take the workload off the doctors in order to provide a much more efficient service. A medical assistant is one of the roles. A medical assistant is there to offer support in many admin factors of a patient's medical care and some clinical factors.</p> <p>There was recently a medical assistant training course which ZA and JT attended whereby areas of training were given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Correctly take blood pressures and how to record this on Emis Web</li> <li>• Dip stick urine samples and record this on Emis Web,</li> <li>• Read code correctly and demonstrations</li> <li>• Create referral letters</li> </ul> <p>The point of these roles is to teach non-clinical staff to perform simple procedures so that the doctors have more face to face time with the patients via more available appointments.</p>
<p><b>5. Closing Points</b></p>	<p>The PPG meeting minutes will be accessible on our website.</p> <p>The meeting ended with thanks from MW and Dr NH to the PPG members for attending.</p>

**Next Meeting: End of May/ Early June. Exact date TBA.**

