

News from Holbrook and Shotley Surgery

Electronic data sharing

As you may be aware, the care.data initiative has been put 'on hold' until the summer months but there are a number of ways that your electronic patient record may be shared. For many of these initiatives patients are automatically opted in and if you would prefer not to share your data, you will need to opt out. I have produced a summary document which gives further guidance on all the different types of sharing, which is available from reception or on our website.

Patient Feedback

We are always grateful for your feedback, both positive and negative, and would encourage patients to leave generalised comments on either the NHS Choices website or the CQC website. If you have a specific comment or complaint, this is best dealt with by writing to me at the practice and I will ensure this is investigated fully.

New staff

We are pleased to welcome a new receptionist, Linda, and a new dispenser, Sharon, to the surgery. Both Linda and Sharon will be providing holiday cover for existing staff and will be training throughout March. We have also recruited a female GP, Dr Lewis, to replace Dr Carey from the end of April. She will be covering Monday and Tuesday morning surgeries at Shotley and Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning at Holbrook.

Text messaging

Please let our staff know your mobile phone number so that we can confirm your appointment by text. We may also use this in the future to send results and reminders.

Fish and Chip baby knits

We are very grateful for all the knits that have been handed in for our Rwandan campaign, as well as for donated wool and baby items. At the time of writing (beginning of March) we have 240 jumpers, 216 hats and 6 blankets. Please remember the deadline is 31st March. We are meeting with Maralyn Bambridge who heads up the charity on 13th March and hope to involve the local newspaper to increase awareness and raise funds for shipping the items to Ntungwa.

Julia Smith
Practice Manager