

## **JUNE 2015 NEWSLETTER**

### **Health Visiting Service**

As from the end of June, there will no longer be a baby clinic on a Thursday morning for weighing etc. Babies registered at this practice can be seen for weighing and general advice at Rainford Health Centre on a Wednesday afternoon instead. The clinic runs from 1-3pm. Please see information on website and poster in reception for details.

Due to shortages in Health visitor numbers, they are no longer doing the 6 week check measurements. This is being passed to the GP (obviously no GP shortage nationally). To help me, please have your child weighed on a Wednesday afternoon so I just have to add head circumference and length to my 6 week check on a Thursday. This will unfortunately reduce the number of available GP appointments on a Thursday morning. This is out of our control – national decision. We are fighting it, however.

Vaccinations will continue as normal from 11am on a Thursday – sorry kids (your parents brought you)!

### **Care Quality Commission Result**

We have finally received our result and have been given an overall rating of 'good'. Many thanks again for all of you who participated in either leaving feedback or being present on the awful day. The full report will be available at some point on the practice website and the CQC website. I think we will be eventually sent a poster to display in reception also – try to contain your excitement!

### **Electronic Prescription Service**

It was brought to our attention towards the end of May that the electronic prescribing service does not work when scripts are processed unless the receptionist requesting them has logged in with a smart card. We have a new member of staff who has to log in manually and the problem with EPS only came to light when a patient brought it to our attention. From our side, it looked as though the script request had been processed. We do apologise to those affected and we will now know for the future so it should not happen again. The new receptionist now has a smart card.

### **Cold Calling**

A patient has been contacted by a London company and told that taking their product for 8 months would mean she could then stop her diabetic and asthmatic treatment. Her bank details were requested and she was promised the product within 3 days. Stopping asthmatic and diabetic treatment could be fatal. We would welcome details from other patients who might have been contacted. Please do not stop any prescribed treatment without discussing it first with a doctor. If it was that easy to cure diabetes and asthma we would know about it already.

### **Holiday Vaccinations**

It is that time of year again – please leave plenty of time to check whether any holiday vaccinations are needed and not the day before you travel. Please use high factor sun block (minimum SPF 30) and avoid the sun between 12 and 3pm. Ensure you are well hydrated (unless holidaying the UK and then probably no need) and no, I do not mean with alcohol!