

MARCH

MARDEN NEWS

The monthly newsletter from Marden Medical Practice March 2024

Launch of NHS Pharmacy First advanced service

The new NHS Pharmacy First advanced service was launched on Wednesday, 31st January 2024, as announced in November 2023. We would like to thank the more than 10,000 pharmacies who have registered to deliver the **service to date**.



Get prescription medicines
straight from a local pharmacy

NHS The new Pharmacy First Service will enable community pharmacists to complete episodes of care for patients without the need for the patient to visit their general practice.

This, alongside expansions to the pharmacy blood pressure checking and contraception services, will save up to 10-million general practice team appointments a year and help patients access quicker and more convenient care, including the supply of appropriate medicines for minor illness.

The Pharmacy First Service builds on the previous Community Pharmacist Consultation Service (CPCS) by enabling community pharmacies to manage patients for seven common conditions, following specific clinical pathways. The overall service consists of three core elements:

Pharmacy First (clinical pathways) – new element

Pharmacy First (urgent repeat medicine supply) – previously commissioned as the CPCS.

Pharmacy First (NHS referrals for minor illness) – previously commissioned as the CPCS. The seven conditions are:

Clinical Pathway	Age Range
Acute Otitis Media*	- 1 to 17 years
Impetigo	- 1 year and over
Infected insect bites	- 1 year and over
Shingles	- 18 years and over
Sinusitis	- 12 years and over
Sore Throat	- 5 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract infections	- Women 16-64 years

The clinical pathways were carefully developed with input from a group of multi professional experts, including practising clinicians, antimicrobial resistance specialists, and representatives from national organisations. They have been approved by the National Medical Director at NHS England and the Chief Medical Officer for England.

Useful Numbers

Health Visitors 452300
District Nurses 277709
RSH 261000
Family Planning 283382

Pharmacies

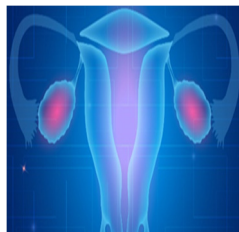
Rowland's On Site
369446
Asda 276810
Sainsbury's 244744
Taylor - Radbrook
249931
Williams Co-op
344277
Conway 352352
Lunt's - Hereford Rd
351918
Boots - Pride Hill
351311
Rhodes 343998
Boots - Cophthorne
350747
Lloyds - Riverside
344523
Tesco
845449
Pharmacy Express
245715

Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month 2024 March 1 - March 31

When a woman is diagnosed at the earliest stage, her chance of surviving ovarian cancer for five years or more doubles from just 46 per cent to more than 90 per cent.



However, nearly half of GPs mistakenly believe symptoms only present in the later stages of the disease, and less than a third of women in the UK are confident they know the symptoms.



This year, tens of thousands of symptoms leaflets were read, thousands of cakes were baked, hundreds of outlandish outfits worn and more teapots brewed than we could count all with one aim in mind to get more women diagnosed at the earliest stage. Your fundraising means we will be able to do more to improve early diagnosis, fund more life-saving research and provide much-needed support.

Brain Tumour Awareness Month was launched in 2004 by a group of charities that went on to become founding members of Brain Tumour Research. Every March, we lead the way with a packed programme of activities to raise vital awareness and funds to get closer to our vision of finding a cure for all types of brain tumours.



This year, as we celebrate our 15th anniversary, there are many ways you can get involved during Brain Tumour Awareness Month to bring hope to the one in three people who knows someone affected by this devastating disease.

A brain tumour occurs as a result of an abnormal growth or spread of cells from within the brain or its supporting tissues that can damage the brain or threaten its function. Some types of tumour can occur around the edge of the brain and press on certain parts of it, whilst others can be more diffuse, spreading out and growing in amongst healthy brain tissue. Brain tumours are divided into four classifications – grades 1 and 2 are low-grade, grades 3 and 4 are classed as high-grade. High-grade or malignant brain tumours are aggressive and can spread quickly in the brain, and are usually a serious threat to life. Low-grade or benign brain tumours are slower-growing and not usually immediately life threatening, but can still have a potentially dangerous impact on a person's well-being.



The direct cause of a brain tumour is still not clear, so more investment in research is urgently needed. There are over 120 different types of brain tumour.

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