

## **Pearmtree Practice Patient Participation Group**

Annual General Meeting, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017

The Peartree PPG has now been established for just over three years, and it's been a GP's contractual requirement to have a PPG since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015, which is almost 2 years. The purpose of the PPG, in a nutshell, is to allow patients to communicate and work with practice GPs, in order to improve the Practice.

The Group has had a few achievements, but in general these have been outweighed by lack of progress, particularly our inability to get information from the practice, and reach the vast majority of patients.

The past year has seen two Practice Managers leave. The Manager is the key person we liaise with and on whom we depend for information. These departures coincided with the inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) which is an independent national regulator of health and social care. They inspected the Peartree Group Practice in Octoberber and published their report last month. The CQC assess and report on all GP practices, care homes, clinics, and the like. (*Since this review was compiled there has been a follow-up inspection*)

The CQC interviewed two members of our PPG and we came out glowing. The Quality of patient care was assessed as Good, but having seen the report it's clear why we've been unable to achieve as much as we would have liked. The practice needs much improvement and we are very hopeful we can have a role in this.

- Bruce Morton has been producing a weekly PCG (Patient Commissioning Group) news roundup of information, circulated by email. Very useful for current health news. It saves trawling the internet. He also circulates all other relevant information.
- In the past year several GPs have attended our meetings and given talks on important issues. These have been popular and well presented, but far too few people attended because we are unable to reach patients.
- We now have a web page on the Practice site, though the practice needs to make it easier to find. Watch this space.
- Between us, we have attended and reported on several regional meetings in the interest of the PPG.

I am very optimistic and confident that we will achieve much more in the remainder of 2017.

Thank you

**George Stodulski**

Vice-Chair