

## **PATIENT INFORMATION**

Please be aware that prescriptions will now take **72 hours (3 working days)** to process

### **PRESCRIPTION ORDERING DIRECT (POD)**

A new and convenient way to order your repeat prescription – all it takes is a simple phone call that you can make from the comfort of your own home – there's no need to go into your GP practice or pharmacy.

You'll also speak to a trained prescription clerk who can discuss your needs meaning you'll only order medication when you need it – saving the NHS money to spend on other important services.

**Call NHS Prescription Ordering Direct (POD) on**

**01793 683 755**

**Have your voice heard, enable public choice, drive improvement and care.**

**Would you like to join the Priory Road Participation Group?**

**If you are interested please ask for a form at Reception.**



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Swindon, SN3 2EZ  
Tel: 01793 688744  
[Prioryroadmedicalcentre.org.uk](http://Prioryroadmedicalcentre.org.uk)

## Welcome to the Spring Newsletter

**Available in large print on request**

## Welcome to the Spring Newsletter

# Seven Swindon GP Practices announce Super Partnership

Seven Swindon GP practices have today announced a Super Partnership to improve the quality of care to over 75,000 patients across the region.

The Wyvern Health Partnership incorporating; Merchiston Surgery, Kingswood Surgery, Hawthorn Medical Centre, Lawn Medical Centre, Ridgeway View Family Practice, Old Town Surgery and **Priory Road Medical Centre** will work together to develop services, share best practices and collaborate on initiatives.

Dr Steve Sewell, GP Partner at Ridgeway View Family Practice, said: "GP practices are experiencing increasing demand on their services with considerable pressures on their resources, and on staff in particular. The creation of the Wyvern Health Partnership will ensure that we continue to operate in the best interests of our patients who are at the centre of everything we do.

"This new partnership will improve the way we work and use our resources, enabling us to invest in patient services and care. It will also help us to attract, retain and develop GPs, other clinical staff and support staff, by offering exciting career opportunities."

Dr Sewell added: "All our patients will continue to be supported at the practice where they are currently registered. The new Partnership will involve patients in these exciting changes and will provide regular updates through the local Patient Participation Groups.

"We look forward to continuing to provide the highest standards of patient care in the Swindon area."

Dr Peter Mack, Clinical Chair, Swindon Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "We have been supporting local GP practices to look at different ways of working to ensure that practices, and the services they provide are sustainable for the long term.

"Closer working will enable practices to transform the way in which GP-led services are provided and to maximise the opportunities to improve individual patient care by using staff more flexibly to be able to see a broader range of conditions."

## **SPRING HEALTH PROMOTIONS**

Please take a moment to have a look at the Health Promotion Board in the Waiting Room which will give you more information on Bowel Cancer Awareness Month – 1 to 30 April 2018

### **Bowel Cancer Awareness Month**

**1 to 30 April 2018**

Bowel cancer is also called colorectal cancer. It affects the large bowel, which is made up of the colon and rectum.

Most bowel cancers develop from pre-cancerous growths, called polyps. But not all polyps develop into cancer. If your doctor finds any polyps, they can remove them to prevent them becoming cancerous. Cancer cells may stay in the bowel or they might spread to other parts of the body, like the liver or lungs.

Bowel cancer is the fourth most common cancer in the UK, after breast, prostate and lung cancer.

Over 41,200 people are diagnosed with bowel cancer every year in the UK.

Around 268,000 people living in the UK today have been diagnosed with bowel cancer.

Bowel cancer is treatable and curable, especially if it's diagnosed early.

More than nine out of ten people diagnosed with Stage 1 bowel cancer survive five years or more after diagnosis. However this drops significantly as the disease develops.

There is only a small chance that bowel cancer will come back after five years.

Almost 16,000 people die from bowel cancer in the UK every year. It is the second most common cause of cancer death in the UK, behind lung cancer. But the number of people dying of bowel cancer has been falling since the 1970's. This may be due to earlier diagnosis and better treatment.