

Welcome to the first edition of "PPG News". A monthly newsletter to update you on work at the CCG and to provide the opportunity for PPG's to share their news and successes in our PPG "members blog" section.

## **We Need Your Help!.....**

To treat patients safely and well, it is important that professionals are able to see and access a patient's health record.

Only by letting their GP surgery know it is ok will a patient's notes be available to be seen by other professionals such as hospital clinicians, paramedics or district nurses.

We need your help to spread these messages to your practice's patients, and help to get more people to sign up and give their consent.

Your practice will have copies of the consent forms, also available in other languages, at reception. Representatives from the CCG would be very happy to come along to your PPG meeting to discuss the initiative and how you can get involved.

If you would like more information please contact Julie Irving, the CCGs' Information Sharing Programme Manager on **01473 770152** – [julie.irving@suffolk.nhs.uk](mailto:julie.irving@suffolk.nhs.uk)

## **Self Care Week**

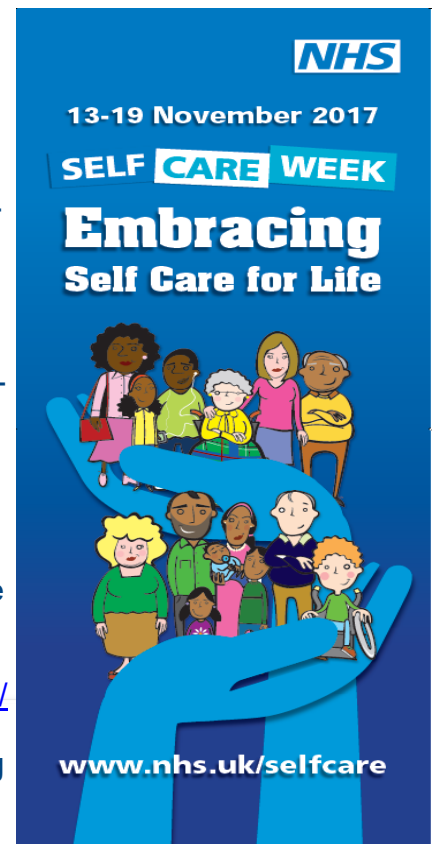
**13th – 19th November 2017**

is self-care week, an annual national awareness week aimed at empowering individuals to look after their own, and their family's health and well-being, and improving understanding in doing so.

This week provides a great opportunity to promote self care to patients, whether it's putting up a poster in the practice to promote Self Care week itself or working with your practice to promote a self-care initiative such as coughs, colds and flu.

The Self Care Forum <http://www.selfcareforum.org/events/self-care-week/>

has resources to help planning and promotion of Self Care



## **Upcoming PPG Network Locality Meetings:**

- Ipswich Primary Care PPG's Tuesday 31st October, 6.00—8.00pm at Rushbrook House
- Deben Health Group PPG's Wednesday 8th November, 6.00pm—8.00pm at Framfield House
- Coast & Country PPG's Tuesday 21st November, 6.00—8.00pm at The Grove, Felixstowe
- Whole PPG Network Meeting for all PPG's, Wednesday 6th December, 5.30—7.30pm at Endeavour House.

**Mince pies will be provided!**

Details of practice localities can be found on our website <http://www.ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk/Aboutus/MeetthePractices.aspx>

If you would like to attend a meeting please email Lois [lois.bull@ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](mailto:lois.bull@ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)

## Practice Requirements and PPGs:

From the 1st April 2015 there was a contractual requirement for all practices to establish (if it has not already done so) and maintain a PPG and make reasonable efforts during each year for this to be representative of the practice population. The practice must engage with the PPG throughout the year, at a frequency and in a manner which is agreed with its PPG, including to review patient feedback (whether from the PPG or other sources) and feedback from carers of registered patients, who themselves are not registered patients. The purpose of the engagement is to identify improvements that may be made in the delivery of services by the practice. Where the practice and PPG agree, the practice must act on suggestions for improvement using reasonable endeavours to implement these.

In summary the requirements for all practices are:

- Develop and maintain a PPG for the purpose of obtaining the views of patients and enabling the practice to obtain feedback from the practice population on services delivered by the contractor.
- Make reasonable efforts for this group to be representative of the practice population.
- Engage with the PPG at a frequency and manner agreed with the group.
- Review patient feedback (whether from the PPG or other sources) with the aims of the practice and PPG agreeing improvements that could be made to services.
- Act on suggestions for improvements, where the practice and PPG agree.

Practices are required to declare in their annual electronic practice self-declaration that they have fulfilled their requirements.

**If you have any questions relating to PPGs and practice requirements please contact Louise Hardwick, [louise.hardwick@ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](mailto:louise.hardwick@ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)**

## How Healthy is your ?

### Upcoming PPG event:

**"How Healthy is Your Heart"** hosted by Ravenswood PPG  
Thursday 16th November 4.00pm—7.00pm  
Ravenswood Medical Centre, 24 Hening Avenue, Ipswich  
IP3 9QJ  
<http://www.ravenswoodmedicalpractice.co.uk/>

### **General Contact:**

**Lois Bull, Primary Care Development Manager**  
[lois.bull@ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](mailto:lois.bull@ipswichandeastsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)

## Members Blog

### **Mike Golding, Member of Saxmundham PPG**

It doesn't seem too long ago that representatives from a number of PPG's met in Rushbrook House. At that time many groups were struggling to build a relationship with their Surgeries and some even questioned what a PPG was for. Well we've certainly covered some distance since those early shaky days. We have great support from the CCG through Louise and Lois. We have regular local and regional meetings and now we have our own Newsletter.

There is no right and wrong way to develop a PPG. Some have Constitutions, some Terms of Reference and others no formal organisation. Some interview prospective members and others welcome all comers. Those of us who attend meetings with members from other PPG's realise that the DNA of each group is very different and it's always educational hearing how other groups go about their business. In our Deben Health Group I would like to think there is a real feeling of respect and friendship developing between us.

The future is even more exciting as we become involved with our Surgeries on the 10 High Impact Actions. So much to get our teeth into including a different use of the letters DNA!!!

On a personal note I am honoured to have been asked by Louise & Lois to become a Volunteer Assistant supporting them with their work on PPG's and look forward to the next step on this journey of discovery.

**If you would like to write a blog for our next edition contact Lois**