

Practice News

OCTOBER 2023

Embracing Culture of Inclusion



Much Wenlock and Cressage Medical Practice and Safe Ageing No Discrimination (SAND) have joined together in supporting the ageing lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, or asexual (LGBTQIA+) community. On behalf of the Practice Dr Hay & Dr Wentel have signed a covenant with the charity, committing to understand and respond to the needs of older LGBTQIA+ people in our local community. The covenant consists of five pledges, which the Practice has committed to in support of this charity.

The pledges are:

- Providing the best possible quality services for older and old LGBTQIA+ people.
 - *Ensuring the care provided by the Surgery is holistic and inclusive for all patients.*
- Learning what life can be – and has been – like for different LGBTQIA+ people.
 - *Raise staff awareness through education events.*
- Vocally and visually supporting groups working with and for older and old LGBTQIA+ people.
 - *Demonstrating support of the charity via the Practice digital media channels.*
- Creating meaningful opportunities for LGBTQIA people and groups to influence what you do.
 - *Raising awareness by sharing knowledge with our Patient Participation Group, Our Health Partnership and the wider GP Community.*
- Assessing and evidencing change, including work carried out to engage with LGBTQIA+ people.
 - *Regular opportunities available for staff to offer feedback.*

Other organisations which have already signed the Covenant include Age UK Shropshire Telford and Wrekin, Citizens Advice Shropshire, Wrekin Housing Group, Shropshire Council and Severn Hospice, among more.

For more information, please visit the SAND website at: www.lgbtsand.com.

Alternatively, the team can be contacted at info@lgbtsand.com or on 01743 590023.

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New Faces – Practice Team

In recent months we have successfully recruited a member to our reception team, secretary, Practice Nurse and Health Care Assistant. We also have 2 new GP Registrars who have joined us for their 12 month placement, Dr Amara and Dr Ruemu.

From November 23 we welcome a new partner to the Practice; Dr Maurice Price. Dr Price is an experience GP and GP Partner with a keen interest in education and promoting patient care. He will be working 3 days a week in the Practice.

Autumn COVID Vaccination Update

This Autumn the Practice will be vaccinating Care Home Residents, Housebound Patients and patients aged between 16-64 who are classed as immunocompromised and at risk.

Clinics for the at risk patients will be arranged in late October and will be held at Cressage Medical Practice. Where possible we will send out text messages with a self book link for patients to book their own appointment.

For other groups of patients who are eligible for the Autumn Covid Booster please contact 119 to arrange your vaccination at a local, nationally organised, centre.

Have you got a couple of hours each week you could spare to support someone in our community?

The Much Wenlock & Cressage CoCo (Compassionate Communities) Group are recruiting for more volunteers to help support a frail or vulnerable person to maintain their links within our community. This could involve phoning them on a regular basis; calling in for a chat; accompanying them to the shops or assisting them in those little tasks of daily living such as household paperwork or walking the dog or a bit of gardening.

This won't involve personal care but things which help the person remain active in the local community. Full training and support will be provided, and you will be making a real difference for someone in your community.

Interested? Then leave your contact details with reception at Much Wenlock or Cressage Medical Practice