#### **Much Wenlock & Cressage Medical Practice**

# Practice News February 2018

#### HCA REDUCED APPOINTMENTS

Between the 5 February and 19<sup>th</sup> February the Practice will have reduced capacity to undertake blood tests. For patients who require routine blood tests during this period there are alternative community services available as listed below:-

## Elizabeth House Royal Shrewsbury Hospital

Mytton Oak Road Shrewsbury SY3 8XQ

Telephone: 01743 492265, or 01743 261000 x3522

**Opening hours:** Accessible for hospital patients and GP patients who have fasted from 8.45am. There is a drop-in service for non-fasting GP patients, including warfarin patients from 1pm - 4.45pm.

## Outpatients Department Princess Royal Hospital

Apley Castle Telford TF1 6TF

Telephone: 01952 641222 x4550

**Opening hours:** Accessible for hospital patients and GP patients who have fasted from 8am. There is a drop-in service for non-fasting GP patients, including warfarin patients from 9am - 4.15pm.

#### Bridgnorth Community Hospital

Northgate Bridgnorth WV16 4EU

Telephone: 01746 762641

Opening hours: Drop in service 8.30 - 11.00 Monday to Friday.

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#### Have You Served In The Armed Forces?

A veteran is someone who has served in the armed forces for at least one day, and there are around 4.5m veterans in the UK.

When servicemen and women leave the armed forces, their healthcare is the responsibility of the NHS.

All veterans are entitled to <u>priority access to NHS hospital</u> care for any condition, as long as it's related to their service, whether or not they receive a war pension.

Veterans accessing the services must:

- be a resident in England
- have served in the UK armed forces for a full day
- be registered with a GP practice in England or be willing to register with a GP
- be able to provide their military service number or another form of acceptable proof of eligibility

People meeting these criteria can self-refer, or request referral via a healthcare professional or a service charity. For further information visit:

https://www.nhs.uk/nhsengland/militaryhealthcare/pages/militaryhealthcare.aspx.

Upon receipt of referral, patients will be offered an initial face-to-face assessment within two weeks and a first clinical appointment two weeks after that time.

All people leaving the armed forces are given a summary of their medical records, which they are advised to give to their new GP when they register.

If you haven't already done so, register with a GP, tell them you've served and are a veteran, and bring to their attention any health problems relating to your time in the armed forces.

The NHS also provides dedicated mental health services across England that offer a range of treatments and support for veterans and those soon to be discharged from the armed forces. For further information visit: https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/veterans-mental-health-services-contacts/.

#### \*THANK YOU\*

Thank you for all the Christmas Cards and gifts we kindly received from patients over the Christmas period.