



BETTS AVENUE NEWS

DNA Protocol

There were 4318 appointments that patients didn't attend in 2017! Each appointment costs the practice around £45.

If you are unable to attend your appointment please cancel it as this could be given to a patient with a more urgent problem.

If you miss numerous appointments you may be advised to confirm your attendance or it will be cancelled by reception.

Pharmacy First

Are you entitled to free prescriptions? This scheme offers advice and treatment for many minor ailments such as: bites and stings, chicken pox, colds, colic, consultations, diarrhoea, eczema, hayfever, head lice and so much more. Just ask at reception for a leaflet on Pharmacy First which will confirm if you are entitled to this service and what ailments they deal with.



Are you aged 13-25?

As a practice we now offer C-Cards to anyone between the ages of 13-25, even if you are not a patient here. You can not only register for a new C Card but also collect condoms from the surgery using an existing C Card. As well as condom issuing you can also see our Nurses for other contraception. Finally we offer Chlamydia and other sexual health screening/ advice.

All enquiries are confidential for more information please ask reception or the Nursing Team.



CQC

Dear Patients

The practice is having their routine CQC (Care Quality Commission) inspection on 16th March 2018. Both of our sites (Kenton and Benwell) will be inspected to ensure we are providing the best service to our patients.

There are comment cards available in the surgery if you would like to give your feedback to CQC.

Our last routine inspection was held on 2nd December 2014 and the practice was rated as GOOD in every category.

You can view the previous report on the CQC Website or by typing this link into your browser.

<http://www.cqc.org.uk/provider/1-199690404>

Thank you for your support

Julie Wade (Practice Manager)

Surgery Closures

- Thursday 15th March- 12pm-6pm
- Friday 30th March– All Day
- Monday 2nd April– All Day
- Thursday 18th April– 12pm 6pm
- Monday 7th May– All Day

Website: www.bettsavenue.nhs.uk

Email: bettsavenue@nhs.net

Benwell Number: 01912742767

Benwell Fax: 01912740244

Kenton Number: 01912461546

Kenton Fax: 01912461550

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday:
8.30am -6.00pm



AAA (Abdominal Aortic Aneurism) screening programme- help save lives !

An abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) is a ballooning of part of the aorta that is within the tummy (abdomen). An AAA usually causes no symptoms unless it bursts (ruptures). A ruptured AAA is often fatal.

All men aged 65 will be sent an invite letter to attend for a scan to detect if they have AAA and monitored and treated according to the results. If you receive an invite please attend for screening.

Many men have not opted to attend for this simple screening which could save lives. If you are a gentleman over 65 and did not have the screening test you can self refer into the programme The North East Screening Centre can be contacted on 0191 4452554. For further info please visit :-

<https://www.qegateshead.nhs.uk/aaa>

Dr Black's Retirement

A message from Dr Black

After 32 years I have decided to call it a day before I overstay my welcome!

It has been a pleasure and privilege to serve at Betts and I take with me so many happy memories.

General Practice has changed immeasurably over the course of my career - not always for the better!

Looking back my greatest satisfaction has come from delivering old style family medicine. Many of the children I looked after as babies in the 1980's and 90's are now parents in their own right. Indeed together with my father there have been Dr Black's working in this practice for over 60yrs.

Still nothing goes on forever and it is time for new blood and fresh ideas.

I have every confidence in the long term future of the practice and wish my successor(s) all good fortune.

With all good wishes

David Black

We would like to welcome our two new female GP's who have replaced Dr Black, they started at the beginning of March.

Dr Despoina Gkisasi graduated from Medical School of University of Athens, Greece in 1997. She first trained in General Medicine and then she joined the GP training scheme in 2007. She holds postgraduate qualifications in diabetes, medical education and women's health.

Dr Kazi Shahadat has been a qualified GP from Northumbria University for 3 years. She is interested in GP training and medical education along with developing minor surgery services within the practice.



BettsAvenueMC



BettsAvenueMedicalCentre

Dr Despoina Gkisasi

Dr K Shahadat