

MINUTES OF A PRACTICE NURSE MEETING 26th November 2008.

The meeting was held at The Golden Orchid, Hoylake and was sponsored by Carol Jones from Pfizer and Alasdair Mercer from Teva.

29 nurses attended, apologies received from Sue McGuire, Carol Walker and Sally Graham.
Education meeting.

Tracey Kirk and Jackie Brereton Respiratory nurse consultants, gave complimentary presentations about COPD. Tracey was as entertaining but informative as ever. She talked about the role of anti-cholinergics, the invisible nature of the pathology and the treatment of COPD. There are many pathologies which all need treating e.g. inflammation, oedema, phlegm and bronchospasm. She stressed the need for long term treatment and reducing exacerbations. She went on to describe graphically with pictures all the factors that contribute to the airways narrowing.

Jackie then gave a more factual presentation; COPD caused more deaths last year than breast cancer or lung disease. It is a multi faceted illness with psychological factors e.g. depression coming into play.

UPLIFT (understanding potential of long term impacts on function with Tiotropium) is a new randomized double blind placebo controlled study over 4 years with 5993 participants in 37 countries. It has demonstrated the benefits of this drug. As well as FEV1, secondary functions of quality of life were looked at. One key point of the study is to introduce Tiotropium in mild to moderate COPD and not wait until the disease is severe.

Business meeting.

* Sue Smith introduced Maxine Ball the new professional development nurse for Bebington and West Wirral. MMR and Cervarix PGDs have gone out to practices. The GSK rep can help remind girls to attend via texts or letter if you would like this service, obviously the patient has to agree to it as well. 54 cases of Measles in Chester. Birkenhead locality cluster group meeting Thornton Hall 12th Decemer 12.15, speaker Colm Mahoney, reply to Sue Smith please. Carol Heath has now had her op, Patsy Dodd also had surgery, cards and flowers will be sent on behalf of the WPNA. Spirometry training with Sue McGuire 21st January and 11th February 9-4.

* AGM FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY 2009 7PM AT THE GROVE HOUSE HOTEL WALLASEY.

* THIS WILL BE A FUN NIGHT, NO SPEAKERS JUST A QUIZ WITH PRIZES.

* PLEASE BRING SUBS £10.

* ANYONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A COMMITTEE MEMBER PLEASE LET US KNOW AS Bev Chapman is stepping down as co meeting organizer, thankyou.