

## **WPNA Minutes 24/02/09 held at Grove House, Wallasey**

Sponsors - Astra Zeneca

Apologies :- Kath Jarvis, Carol Ryecroft

Attendance 18 Practice Nurses

### **Business**

Amendments to constitution now complete

Appointment of future committee members to take place at AGM – all nominations for posts to be received ( in writing) 7 days prior to AGM please.

Registration forms may be downloaded from WPNA website – fees paid to Cath Farnworth ( treasurer).

Requests for cards/flowers/conference funding/bursaries/books – in writing please to Cath Farnworth ( treasurer) , all receipts must also be forwarded.

Charity nominations – any further suggestions will be considered if received by next WPNA meeting.

Vacancies – Nurse Practitioner ( new post) located in New Ferry approx 24 hours/ wages negotiable, more details to follow.

Sponsorship – Astra Zeneca offering 80% sponsorship on a first come, first served basis.

### **Presentation** – Sue Smith Respiratory Nurse Specialist – Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Trust

Sue outlined her role which involves management of difficult asthma in adults (including use of bricanyl via syringe driver), TB, Pulmonary Fibrosis, COPD.

An informative presentation followed including summary of updated version of British Asthma Guidelines Management ( May 2008) – specific reference to changes at STEP 3:- LABA's NOT licensed as monotherapy for treatment of asthma.

#### *Impact of Asthma – Statistics*

5.2 million Asthmatics in UK

55% uncontrolled asthma

75% estimated hospital admissions for asthma are unavoidable

90%of all asthma related deaths are preventable

#### *Impact on Patient*

Airway inflammation is thought to be central in the disease process in asthma and can cause long term damage to lung tissue. Asthma symptoms resolve quickly, *inflammation* takes longer to resolve and leads to *remodelling* of bronchial mucosa and *irreversible* structural changes which lead to resistance to airflow, increased mucous secretion and increased surface tension and airway closure.

Special Situations – Sue involved in trials presently using OMALIZUMAB ( XOLAIR) Step 5 of asthma guidelines with adherence to specific criteria and trial lasts 16 weeks.

**NEXT WPNA MEETING – FLYERS TO BE SENT OUT PRIOR TO EVENT MARCH 2009**