



PRACTICE NEWSLETTER NO.4

Medical Staff:

Dr Kim King is working for us during the month of July covering Drs Simon Harbinson and Dorren Kirkaldy who are both away this month.

Dr Pippa Harrison returned from her sabbatical leave in Mid-June. Dr Alannah Stockwell is fitting in very well as Dr Jenny Cooper's replacement. However it appears that some patients of Jenny's did not hear first-hand from Jenny or the staff during a recent visit that she was leaving. Nor did they see the advertisements we put in the Nelson Evening Mail and community newspaper, or read the newsletters in the waiting room and on the website. We apologise to all those patients for whom this came as an upsetting shock.

We also want to remind all of Jenny's patients, that although we predict Alannah will be very acceptable, patients are welcome to see and/or register with any of our other doctors apart from Dr Shaun McKenzie-Pollock (whose books are already full).

Reminder Regarding Portal:

Remember that we now offer the ability to access test results to those patients who want this.

Historical results are not available through the portal but can be requested. See a doctor or nurse if you are interested in this service. This access also provides you with your long-term medication list.

Access to recalls will probably be the next thing we make available.

Dr Google:

It is not at all uncommon for patients to consult “Dr Google” before they see one of our doctors.

This can be informative, but it can also be misleading.

If you want an informative, reputable site www.healthnavigator.org.nz has an enormous amount of up to date information.

Fluvax:

This year the Ministry of Health is funding flu vaccination right up to the end of the year. However remember that the peak incidence of flu is still in winter months, so it pays to get protected early.

Fees Increase:

We advise that the price of a standard medical consultation rose by \$1 from 1st July.

We have deliberately kept the price of nurse consultations and repeat script charges unchanged. Children under 13 are still free for standard consultations here. Urgent visits after hours are still only free for under 6 year olds.

Occasionally there will be a cost for additional materials regardless of age.