



PRACTICE NEWSLETTER NO.6

Merry Christmas:

We hope you have a very happy Christmas and a relaxing holiday. Please remember to stock up on your medication so you don't run out over the holiday period. It is now less than three months away. We will be closed on the public holidays but the Medical and Injury Centre (546 8881) will be open. If you phone the Surgery on a public holiday or weekend, your call will be diverted there. On the three days between Xmas and New Year we will be open, but for urgent care only, because we are not fully-staffed those days. Things go back to normal Wednesday 4th of January.

Toddler Better Health Groups:

This is a free service for the families of 2-4 year olds. The group is held once a week for ten weeks at Nelson YMCA at Victory. There is 30 minutes of active play (parents and children together), snack time where parents and children get to try new healthy foods and 45 minutes of supervised creative play while parents learn about healthy eating and how to make behaviour changes at home. To register phone 539 1170 or email Tonia.Talbot@nbph.org.nz. The next course will be in the new year.



Patient Portal Progress:

I am happy to announce our patient portal was installed successfully on November 9th. This means if you are an enrolled patient you can now create a Connectmed account and book standard (15 mins) appointments online. All you need to do is go to our website www.nelsonfamilymedicine.co.nz and click on the green book online button on the homepage. This takes you to a page giving available appointments. Read this page carefully. When you click on a time slot you go to a login page. You will need to create an account the first time. Click on the small green “join” to do this. You will need this account login for all patient portal functions. At the suggestion of the portal technician and staff, we will get this function performing perfectly before introducing others. The website will be reorganised to give more information about future online services. Still email any queries to sharon@nelsonfamilymedicine.co.nz.

Emergency Care:

We have been working hard in the last two months brushing up on our emergency care and resuscitation skills. We take this very seriously and make sure everyone including our reception staff are regularly trained in emergency first response, CPR and the use of our defibrillator. There is a free smartphone app. that shows the location of the closest AED (defibrillator/heart shock machine). It is worth downloading. Access to these machines saves lives.

Toyroom Progress:

This has again taken a back seat while we have been working hard on the above but we do have a clear plan now and have made some initial purchases.