



What's new?

It's time to bring you up to date with what's happening here at Taymount and Scone

Staff news.....

We were delighted to welcome Lynne Attwood to our Practice Nursing Team in September last year. Lynne has many years of practice nursing experience and has an interest in diabetes and asthma care in particular. She has settled in well to the team and enjoying meeting the patients at both Taymount and Scone.



We were sad to say goodbye to Cathy Laidlaw who had been with the practice for over 7 years. Cathy has moved on to be a Specialist Diabetes Nurse in PRI and we wish her all the best in her new career.

We would like to congratulate Dr Martin on the birth of her baby girl in December. Dr Martin will be returning from maternity leave in the summer and her patients are being looked after by Dr Jenny Anthony who is well known to many of our patients.

Dr Robyn McCallum joined the practice in February this year for 6 months as part of her GP medical training. Dr McCallum will join us again in August 2011 for a further one year attachment.

H1N1 vaccination.....



We have now completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the vaccination programme and are above the Scottish average for the percentage of eligible patients being vaccinated. The programme was almost exclusively delivered by the doctors and practice nurses and feedback suggests that our timing of these clinics proved very convenient for most patients.

The Scottish Government is keen for practices to continue offering the vaccination over the spring and summer months to patients in the Phase 1 priority groups which included everyone over 6 months in the clinical risk groups, those who are household contacts of immunocompromised people, pregnant women, and frontline health and social care workers.

With specific regard to pregnant women, vaccination is the most effective means of protection against the virus and will provide protection against continuing low levels of virus circulating in our communities over the spring and summer period.

If you are in any of the above groups and would like to take up the offer of vaccination, please contact the receptionist who will arrange a suitable appointment for you.

There are links to relevant Government Information Booklets on our website at www.perthandscone.co.uk

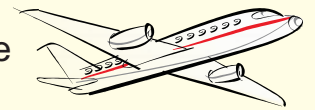
New arrangements for pregnant women.....

As from 1 March 2010 there are new arrangements in place for women who are pregnant. The first point of contact will now be with the midwife and as soon as pregnancy is confirmed, please phone the surgery and ask for an appointment with the midwife. They have special booking clinics arranged in Taymount only and the receptionist will arrange an appointment for you. Ante-natal clinics will continue to be held in both Taymount and Scone surgeries. More information regarding this change to booking arrangements can be found at www.readysteadybaby.org.uk

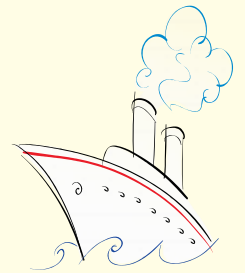


Travel Information.....

If you require any vaccinations relating to foreign travel you need to make an appointment with the Practice Nurse to discuss your travel arrangements. Before making this appointment you will be asked to complete a **Travel Health Questionnaire** which will provide details of the countries and areas within countries that you are visiting to determine what vaccinations are required. This will also allow nurse the opportunity to check your previous records to confirm what vaccinations have been given in the past. Copies of the questionnaire can be collected at the reception desk or downloaded from the website.



It is important to make this initial appointment as early as possible – **at least 6 weeks before departure**. As vaccines have to be ordered you may require a second appointment and this should be at least 4 weeks before you travel to allow the vaccines to work.



Please be aware that most travel vaccines are ordered on a private prescription and these incur a charge over and above the normal prescription charge. This is because travel vaccination is not included in the services provided by the NHS.

Quality Practice Award.....

We are currently working towards renewal of our Quality Practice Award status which we hope to complete later this year. This work offers us a wonderful opportunity to update our protocols, procedures and systems to ensure they are operating to a very high standard. We remain committed to providing high quality care to our patients and to working in partnership with each of you to ensure you receive the best care possible.



Patient Participation Groups.....

We are currently exploring the possibility of setting up some small focus groups to find out from patients with different health needs what they think of the care they receive from us and how we can improve things. If you are contacted by the practice we very much hope you will be happy to take part in any discussions to improve further the standards of care.

