

March 2024 – Surgery Newsletter



Easter Opening Hours

The normal Surgery opening times are from 8.00 am to 6.30 pm Monday to Friday. Over the Easter bank holiday, the Surgery will be closed on Friday, 29 March 2024 and Monday, 1 April 2024.

If you are on regular medication, please remember to order this in good time so you don't run out over the Easter weekend. We do require three working days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) to process all prescriptions.

Pharmacy First Service

The new Pharmacy First service is now up and running and allows participating community pharmacies to receive referrals from NHS 111, GP practices and other referring centres. As well as the Surgery referring patients to this new service, patients can also self-refer themselves.

Pharmacy First referrals are requests for a pharmacist to support patients that require:

- ❖ A consultation with a pharmacist to manage a minor illness
- ❖ A consultation for one of 7 common conditions listed below:

Conditions	Age Range
Acute Otitis Media	1-17 years old
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected Insect Bites	1 year and over
Shingles	18 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Sore Throat	5 years and over
Urinary Tract Infections (Uncomplicated)	Women 16-64 years old

If needed, the pharmacist is also able to prescribe appropriate medication for these conditions.

Surgery Training Afternoon

Along with all other surgeries in the area we will be shut from 12 noon on Wednesday, 27 March 2024 for staff training.

Patient Participation Group Meetings

The next meeting of the Patient Participation Group will be held on Thursday, 28 March 2024 at 6.30 pm at Great Bentley Village Hall in the Mitchell Room.

Sue Mitson – Operations Manager