

- **NEW PATIENT GROUP FOR THREE SHIRES MEDICAL PRACTICE**

Earlier this year Three Shires Medical Practice set up a Patient Participation Group (PPG) which meets regularly with GP's and the Practice Manager to take up patient issues and help support and develop Practice services and activities. A group of patients from each Practice surgery site, (Colerne, Marshfield, Pucklechurch and Wick) came together in April to create the new group. The aims of the group, expressed in terms of reference on the Practice website, are to bring forward ideas and suggestions to benefit patients and the Practice. The patient members of the group are all volunteers. They will seek to advise, inform and influence the Practice from a patient perspective, promote health knowledge and develop communication between patients and Practice. (The group is not a forum for complaints or personal issues nor is it a doctor's fan club!!) The PPG terms of reference and meeting minutes appear on the Practice website under the heading 'Patient Group' and the group intends to meet once a quarter.

The PPG is very aware of the original Patient Reference Group set up in 2015 and is very keen for this group to continue and expand so that patient views can be taken forward by the PPG. If you would like to become part of this growing patient representative group please go on to the Practice website and the heading 'Patient Group' and complete the online sign up form. As a member of the Patient Reference Group we would like to be able to contact you three or four times each year for your opinions and suggestions. For example currently the PPG and the Practice are running a patient survey; please see the survey on the Practice

website, Patient Group or collect a survey form from your surgery reception. The results of the survey will guide the work of the PPG in 2019.

The PPG has an email address that can be contacted 4patientparticipation@gmail.com; if you don't have access to email a letter to the Group secretary can be left at the Pucklechurch surgery. Please be aware that no medical information or questions will be responded to. We Look forward to hearing from you.