**Huntingdon Road Surgery Patient Group**

**“The Role of the Community Pharmacist”**

**Wednesday 25th April 2018**

**16 Attendees.**

**6 Feedback forms returned.**

1. **Apologies**: 7
2. **Minutes of last meeting “Ask the Experts” 21st February 2018**: Agreed.
3. **Matters arising**: David informed the group that the Patient Committee group and Sarah-Jane Jarrold will be designing a small survey to get Huntingdon Road Surgery patients’ view on how we can improve the surgery and Patient Group. For that reason the next Patient Group meeting will be in September for the Annual General Meeting.

The meeting thanked Dr Connan for being such an active, advocate for the Patient group. He was one of the founder members of the group which has been running of 8 years and has been appreciated for his caring, diplomatic and informative approach in being the Practice lead for Patient Participation. He shall be missed by many. The group wished him the all best in his retirement.

1. **Presentations**: David (Chair) introduced and welcomed **Monica Szketko, Community Pharmacist from Rowlands Chemist on Histon Road and Susan Cox, Dispensary Pharmacist at Girton Surgery.**

Notes taken from both of the discussions.

**Monika Szketko**

Monica gave a very informative explanation of her role as a Community Pharmacist. Contracted by the NHS the role is to dispense medication, provide a repeat perception service including Dossit boxes (a pill organiser that helps the right medicines being taken at the right time), and promote a healthy life style such as weight management and blood pressure checks.

Give minor injury/illness and self-care advice, which might be making an appointment with GP.

The Pharmacy recycles inhalers, disposes of unwanted medicines.

Cannot reuse medicines if they have left the shop and opened, it is important to check the need for medicines given out and discuss with GP. This will prevent wastage.

The pharmacist will review patients’ medicine yearly, this is not a clinical review that is done by the GP.

Will discuss new medicines, how to use safely, side effects, follow-up if needed and interaction of different medicines.

Rowland Pharmacy do not take sharps or needles.

Provide Flu vaccinations for the NHS and privately.

Sell over the counter medicines for all illness.

They provide a medication delivery service to anyone who is house bound.

**Susan Cox**

Susan gave a very informative explanation on her role at Girton surgery which is very similar to Monica’s, although it only dispenses to Girton residents, who live more than a mile (as the crow flies) from the nearest Pharmacy.

The Practice takes sharps and needles back if they are sealed in yellow boxes.

More people are ringing Pharmacists to ask for advice. It is an important role to ask and be asked questions around medication.

All the staff are trained, including counter staff. Have regular updates on medicines. Also dispose of unused medicines. All medicines are checked.

Confidentiality is important and conversations are not overheard.

28 day prescribing, to try and prevent wastage and save money.

1. **AOB**: None.
2. **Future meetings**:

Committee meeting Wednesday 16th May 2018

Committee meeting Wednesday 13th June 2018

Patient Group Annual General Meeting Wednesday 19th September 2018