**WACA April 2024 PPG Newsletter**

**General Update:**

* All the WACA Surgeries have started the Spring Covid Vaccination Booster programme; eligible groups are all over 75's, immunosuppressed and residents of older adult care homes.
* We presented a general overview of the 'Capacity and Access' survey results at the last WACA network meeting, these have been sent to all PPG chairs to distribute and if you have any questions or would like more information please let us know.
* We have sent out the PPG guidance document that we have put together (with the help of Barry Rogers and Jonathan Kerr) to assist PPG's recruit new members - if you haven't seen this and would like a copy, please let us know.
* As part of the Mental Health Transformation programme ( <https://www.wacalliance.co.uk/our-projects/waca-mental-health-service/mental-health-community-hubs.html>) we are holding a celebration event on Wednesday May 8th at Central Hall Keighley for all partner organisations involved in the programme. If you are interested in attending the event to learn more about the programme, please let us know and we can send you the invite link.
* We are delighted that WACA have been awarded the 'Menopause Friendly Workplace' accreditation by Henpicked, you can read more about this at <https://www.wacalliance.co.uk/our-projects/menopause-friendly-employer-accreditation.html>
* Continuing our work to support patients experiencing menopause and peri-menopause symptoms, we have created a resource support page on our website that you can view at <https://www.wacalliance.co.uk/our-projects/menopause-resource-support-for-patients-and-staff.html>
* Our lifestyle support partners Eat, Move, Be Happy are launching a new 'Online' health coaching programme 'Live Better' - this is for patients that may struggle to get to the in-person sessions in Skipton and Ilkley and the fully funded programme is available to patients at all WACA Surgeries. You can ask your GP Surgery for a referral or you can visit <https://eatmovebehappy.com/> and self-refer.
* We are hoping to be able to run some activity for the PPG Awareness Week 3rd - 9th June, we have some ideas that we will circulate soon but please get in touch if there is something specific you would like to run.
* We are looking for volunteers to assist with our peer support groups and workshops, you can find out more about these on our volunteering page on the WACA website <https://www.wacalliance.co.uk/join-the-team/volunteer-recruitment.html>

**Craven:**

* Following the continued success of our Autism Support Talk's in Settle, Ilkley and Keighley, we are again running one in Skipton at Dyneley House Surgery on May 16th, places can be reserved at  <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/autism-awareness-talk-for-parents-and-carers-tickets-879329707827?aff=erelexpmlt>
* The monthly Stroke and Osteoporosis groups continue to run from Dyneley House Surgery on the first and last Wednesday's of the month.

**Airedale and Wharfedale:**

* We are all delighted that Grange Park Surgery have been granted the CIL funding from Bradford council. This means a grant of £400,000 from the developers levy has been allocated to the surgery towards the new extension which will enable the extension to commence increasing the size of the surgery to cope with existing and new demand which is great news.
* The monthly menopause support talks at Springs Medical Centre on the first Thursday of the month, continue to be very well attended. There are still some spaces for this week's talk about Pelvic Health which can be booked at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/good-pelvic-health-for-the-menopause-tickets-867409604477?aff=erelexpmlt>
* Our GR8 Minds (Children and Young Person's social prescribing and counselling service) attended the AWARE World Autism Acceptance Day event at Bradford City earlier this month where they were on hand to offer support and advice to families of autistic and undiagnosed children.
* As part of the Mental Health Transformation programme, there is a new mental health drop-in support session that has been launched in Ilkley. This is every Thursday at Christchurch from 10am - Midday - see attached poster for more information.

Our next Patient Network Meeting will be on Wednesday July 10th. We will be having a short presentation regarding the new hospital programme at Airedale but if there is anything else you would like to see included, please let us know.