

# Unity Healthcare Patient Newsletter

**Dr David Brandon, Clinical Lead GP**

**Dear Patients,**

The team at Unity Healthcare are delighted to share with you the news of our recent CQC inspection report, where the practice is now considered "Good" in all areas. This has been a long journey since being placed into special measures in 2019, and the result of a lot of hard work and innovation from the whole team.

We now have an established and stable team at the surgery, and are proud of the exceptional service that this talented and hard-working group deliver. Overall, we are currently providing more than 9000 consultations per month, which represents more than half of our entire practice population every single month.

It is a turbulent time to be working in (or being treated by!) the NHS. There are long hospital waiting lists, a struggling ambulance service, and an exhausted and demoralised workforce. The threat of widespread industrial action looms large, and the never-ending slew of anti-GP rhetoric in some segments of the media shows no sign of abating. I recently delivered a speech at the National Conference of Local Medical Committees about the harm that this negative political and media campaign is doing to the GP workforce, and as a consequence, to you, our patients. We continue to do our best in the face of adversity, and the team at Unity are thankful to those that offer us encouragement. We are grateful for the hard work that our amazing colleagues across the NHS are putting in, shift after shift, and are always doing everything we can to work together to look after you.

Invasive Group A streptococcal infections have been in the news, so we are understandably hearing of lots of concerns regarding feverish illness in children at the moment. As we are trying to prioritise the review of unwell children at this time, we do apologise if as a result you are waiting slightly longer than usual for us to respond to other enquiries.

We would like to congratulate Dr Adana Bodean who has been working under supervision at the surgery as part of the International GP Recruitment training scheme. She has now successfully been awarded full accreditation and will continue to work with us as a substantive GP.



When not hard at work at the surgery, teams from the practice have been busy doing exercise and have raised over £2000 for various charities with the Only the Brave obstacle race, and the Cancer Research UK Girls Night Walk.



Did you know that your inhaler might have quite a big carbon footprint? Do have a look at this excellent website: <https://greeninhaler.org/>

When you have your long-term conditions reviews, we will be checking if a more environmentally friendly alternative may be suitable for you and if so, offer you a switch where possible.

On a personal note, I would also like to share with you that I have had the honour of being recently offered the position of Associate Medical Director for the West Suffolk Alliance, to start from January 2023. This is a part time role that I will carry out alongside my position at Unity Healthcare so you can be assured that I am not leaving! I hope that this position will provide me an opportunity to work towards reducing health inequalities in our region.

More information about the West Suffolk Alliance here: <https://www.sneeics.org.uk/can-do-health-care/west-suffolk/>

**Dr David Brandon**

# Unity Healthcare Patient Participation Group (PPG)

## Want to have a say in how your surgery is run? Why not become a member of the Unity Healthcare PPG?

We are always looking for new members as we need your help to ensure our surgery continues to improve.

As a PPG member, you can better understand how your practice is run, discuss areas of improvement and give your input on changes.

To register your interest, please ask at Reception or email:

## Contact Us

If you have any questions or wish to share feedback with us, please email:

[wsccg.unityhealthcare@nhs.net](mailto:wsccg.unityhealthcare@nhs.net)

Or call:

**01440 841 300**



To keep up to date with our news, please visit [www.unityhealthhaverhill.org.uk](http://www.unityhealthhaverhill.org.uk) or search for 'Unity Healthcare' on Facebook.

Patients can also join the Surgery's Patient Participation Group. To find out more, please email

[wsccg.unityhealthcare@nhs.net](mailto:wsccg.unityhealthcare@nhs.net)

## Healthwatch Suffolk

You can also share feedback with Healthwatch Suffolk, an independent body set up to shape and influence local NHS and social care services.

Call **01449 703 949** or email [info@healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchsuffolk.co.uk)

**healthwatch**  
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