

Patient Participation Group (PPG) Network meeting 9 Notes

Monday 25 September 2023, 6:30pm

We received 34 registrations for this event on Eventbrite and 29 people attended.

The 34 event registrations came mainly from patients registered at 13 Haringey Practices. 20 registrations for the event were from Haringey patients, and of those, 13 were PPG members. There were 14 registrations from Haringey practice staff, North Central London Integrated Care Board (NCL ICB) Public Voice, Healthwatch Haringey and others.

APOLOGIES: Mark Leveson, Adrienne Banks, Yvonne Denny, Karen Doku, Esther Myerson

1. Role of Physician Associates in GP surgeries

[No recording was made of this discussion; however we have uploaded the presentation and David Winskill's questions. For this and all other presentations please see here:

<https://www.healthwatchharingey.org.uk/haringey-ppg-network-meetings>]

This item was introduced by Cassie Williams, CEO Haringey GP Federation and NHS North Central London ICB PA Ambassador Chaima Hales. Caroline Gillett, Head of Primary Care - Haringey Development and Population Health Directorate NHS North Central London ICB gave the presentation.

PPG members reported good experiences of Physician Associates in their surgeries and there were several questions also raised about supervision and prescribing.

Post-meeting note: David Winskill (Vale) asked a number of questions in person and he sent a full list to Caroline Gillett following the meeting. These questions were originally intended for the Primary Care Committee. Cllr Lucia das Neves, Cabinet

Member for Health, Social Care, and Wellbeing has also written to NCL ICB on the role of Physician Associates.

2. Wood Green Community Diagnostic Centre

Noreen Aslam Senior Operations Manager / Reporting Radiographer at Wood Green NHS Community Diagnostic Centre.

We were unable to hear from Noreen Aslam due to poor internet connection, however she agreed to attend the next Network meeting.

[We have uploaded her presentation (September 2023) on the CDC. For this and all other presentations please see here: <https://www.healthwatchharingey.org.uk/haringey-ppg-network-meetings>]

3. How is your PPG working?

Debra Ayipeh, Community Engagement Lead, Public Voice
Debra talked about how Public Voice and PPG members can collaborate to enhance Patient Participation Groups (PPGs) by recruiting more dedicated representatives. Her role is to support residents and patients, ideally, a representative of the demographic of the Haringey community, to engage directly in problem-focused solutions, and decision-making priorities with statutory services to find solutions through co-production and co-delivery.

She identified some challenges people face in recruiting PPG representatives: Time constraints; Awareness; Engagement issues; COVID-19. She highlighted the resources available on the Healthwatch Haringey website, for PPGs.

Debra asked:

- What support you need from me to address these challenges
- What can I do to help you recruit more PPG representatives?

She suggested people might want to email her at:

debra.ayipeh@publicvoice.london

Debra also talked about ongoing recruitment to Reference Groups.

Mary Weaving (Staunton) shared that her surgery had been inspected last year and one of the things the inspectors wanted to see was a PPG that was more diverse. They recruit older people. They had an open day in July with the help of the Practice Manager. They had two patients sign up to be on the PPG.

Debra responded that she would be happy to visit and work with the PPG to speak with the patients. Mary Weaving said she would ask the Practice Manager if that was OK. Debra also said she would help to promote two events happening in Wood Green. She said she would also work with the social prescribers. Mary said they do have a PPG noticeboard and information.

Carol Joseph (Tynemouth) asked Debra to contact her about the PPG.

David Winskill (Vale) stated sometimes there is not a lack of PPG members but trying to get the practice to engage with the PPG. Diane Paice (St Ann's Road) asked about the nature of patient representation. Why should patients represent other patients when professionals on these bodies do not represent other professionals?

Another PPG member stated that having a voice is not participation, you aren't necessarily heard or indeed listened to by those with power or control.

Penelope Fraser (JS) stated we need to define what we mean by having a voice, especially for patients with disabilities, those with literacy issues or whose first language is not English.

Tanya Murat (Healthwatch Haringey) agreed to send on role descriptions for the Reference Groups to PPG members. Debra will forward them to Tanya.

4. Opportunities for local community engagement in the Integrated Care System

NHS North Central London Integrated Care Board (ICB) request applications for the role of Community Participant volunteers. Elizabeth Stimson from the ICB cannot attend today but she is able to come to the next meeting. The deadline for applications for these roles was originally 25 September but it has been extended to 2 October.

5. North Middlesex Hospital Patient Partners

North Mid invites patients to become a Patient Partner. More information about the role has been sent to Healthwatch Haringey by email. There is no deadline for applications. The details are available on the Healthwatch Haringey website.

<https://www.healthwatchharingey.org.uk/news/2023-09-25/become-patient-partner-north-middlesex-hospital>

Ingrid Babcock (Staunton) said she wondered if these roles were really useful to hear patient voices and questioned the absence of Healthwatch Haringey from the ICB structure. Sharon Grant (Muswell Hill), Chair Healthwatch Haringey stated Ingrid was right to ask those questions and she was not sure the roles were a substitute for us having a place at the high level of the ICB, that does happen in other ICBs. She had protested about this in the past.

6. AOB / Announcements

Sharon Grant raised the question about whether Network meetings should be more frequent. There was general agreement to this suggestion. Tanya, Healthwatch Haringey agreed to put the question to her Healthwatch managers.

Tanya apologised for forgetting to record the first part of the meeting and asked if anyone had any notes.

Debra Ayipeh (Public Voice) announced a pilot called the “West Frailty Project” and suggested people email her if they are interested in attending a meeting on Friday.

The next PPG Network meeting will be at 6:30pm on Monday 5 February 2024.