



## A plea!

The vast majority of our patients are respectful, kind and appreciative but a small number are unpleasant to the reception team who seem to bear the brunt of any unmet expectations. Please be patient with reception as they do a really difficult but valuable role and are also like all of us having to cope with a lot of change at work as well as at home during this pandemic.



## CERVICAL SCREENING – WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF??!!

Jade Goody died 12 years ago of cervical cancer at the young age of 27. She left behind two young boys whom she adored. Despite this high profile case, cervical screening of women has hit an all-time low. In the last 10 years, the number of 25 to 29-year old women diagnosed with cervical cancer has soared by 59.2%. However, last year one million women failed to turn up for their smear tests. One in five women missed screening with uptake falling below 78% for the first time in 20 years. Among those aged 25 – 29, uptake fell to 66.3%. Last year alone, 33.7% of 35 to 29 year olds failed to make their scheduled smear test appointment, while 22.3% of 30 to 34 year olds missed their appointment.

Eight women a day are diagnosed with the disease in the UK and it is the most common form of cancer among those aged under 35. While some women admit to being embarrassed about going for screening tests, others said they are concerned it will be painful or think they are not necessary. This is simply not true!

These are the facts:

- 🕒 It is absolutely necessary – it might save your life!
- 🕒 It is not painful, could be slightly uncomfortable but then what procedure isn't!
- 🕒 There is no need to be embarrassed. Our Practice Nurses are fully trained, female, experienced in carrying out the test and have no interest in what you look like – they just want to help save lives.

Every day we learn of the devastating impact a cervical cancer diagnosis has on not only the woman, but her family and friends around her. To know that for those who delayed or missed screening prior to diagnosis, this could have been prevented, is simply tragic and unnecessary. Don't be a victim – you owe it to yourself and your family. It costs nothing but your time so make an appointment today – please!!

## Practice Team Update

Dr Douglas, who has been a partner at Sett Valley Medical Practice for 35 years is due to retire at the end of June 2021.

In anticipation of Dr Douglas's retirement, we have employed a new Salaried GP, Dr Zohra Jafri as well as a new Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Debbie Jones. Both clinicians are extremely experienced.

Our Salaried GP, Dr Karimi is due to become GP Partner from July 2021. She will remain working 7 sessions per week.

We have also expanded our Pharmacist Team and have Jane Lamb, our PCN pharmacist, working with us 2 days a week. Jane is carrying out structured medication reviews for those on multiple medications.

We have also welcomed Jen Lester, Assistant Manager, to our team.



**PLEASE ENSURE THAT WE HAVE YOUR UP TO DATE CONTACT DETAILS TO ALLOW US TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU EFFECTIVELY AND SAFELY**