



Marysville Medical Practice

Brook Street ~ Belle Vue ~ SHREWSBURY SY3 7QR
Tel: 01743 276000 ~ Email: mp.marysville@nhs.net
www.marysville.co.uk

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Welcome to December's newsletter! Christmas is in sight and we hope that you are all gearing up to enjoy the festivities safely, and that you'll get chance to spend quality time with your loved ones. Wishing you all a very happy and festive Christmas and here's to a happy and healthy 2022!



If you think you may have Coronavirus symptoms you should still use the on-line 111 service or call 111 initially. If you are concerned about a non-Coronavirus matter, that you think is important, do still contact us but for minor issues or self care advice please consult a pharmacist where possible in the first instance.

A note from Dr Visick

I've been at Marysville for over 15 years now and have never seen such high demand and pressure on General Practice. Demand since the second wave of the pandemic has for several reasons increased hugely but resources have not. Contrary to what many "newspapers" and the media say, GP surgeries are working in the most demanding circumstances they have ever seen and are losing a significant amount of the workforce as a result. It is not possible for GPs at Marysville to work any harder than they are. Even pre-pandemic hours were often unsustainable and beyond sensible limits. Often the working day is 12- 13 hours without a break and doing hours of catching up on unpaid days. Even so clinicians are having to restrict the number of cases they deal with and pick the most potentially dangerous, risky conditions and prioritise extremely vulnerable patients. We appreciate we are not meeting all of our patients' requests and this is frustrating and worrying for all of us. In addition to this we have also been having to provide staff at weekends for flu and Covid booster clinics.

What is the future for general practice?

The number of GPs is still going down as the population increasingly goes up. There are not enough GPs now and the Government plans to increase numbers have so far failed. The constant GP bashing in the media will not help this. To help Practices to deliver care other health professionals are being recruited. Since 2019 GP Primary Care Networks (groups of Practices working together) have been strongly encouraged as a way of increasing GP services. As part of this funding Networks can employ additional staff and although locally this has been very slow to take off, we are now seeing an exciting variety of staff come on board which could really improve patients access to timely care.

You'll hopefully have seen our open letter, and the updates on our website and answerphone message regarding the staffing situation here at Marysville. There have been a great number of changes over this year, but we're delighted to report that we have new staff joining us. Full details can be found on the website, but include three new receptionists, John, an Urgent Care Practitioner who can prescribe and refer patients, Hayley a Nurse Practitioner who is keen to be trained up to Advanced Nurse Practitioner level, Vicky a Practice Nurse and Dr Malas a GP joining us in January 2022!

As well as the Marysville staff, we have access through our Primary Care Network to Pharmacists, First Contact Physiotherapists, Social Prescribers and Mental Health Practitioners. Reception will be able to sign post patients to the most appropriate clinician for their needs.

Please DO use these health professionals as a GP isn't always needed and often some issues can be dealt with even better by someone with specialist skills, for example for a musculoskeletal problem a physiotherapist will be the best clinician to see first and will get to the root cause of your problem quicker.

Covid Update:

We are still in the depths of the pandemic, indeed Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin currently have the highest number of cases in the West Midlands, so please do take care and adhere to rules put in place for the safety of patients and staff. We would like all patients (unless they are children, or medically exempt) to continue wearing masks when visiting the surgery, and to please maintain a 1-2m distance from other patients when in the waiting areas. If you would prefer to wait in your car that is absolutely fine.

We will continue to treat all patients, but please be aware that if you have any covid symptoms (and are not in an urgent or life critical state) you will be asked to get a PCR test before you are seen or treated—this is because we need to either confirm or rule out covid as a diagnosis and the safest and quickest way to do this is via a PCR test. Reception have been asked by our GPs to inform you of this so please bear in mind that they are not the decision maker, but purely passing that message on. The quicker you get a PCR test the quicker we can triage your condition and help with any treatment.



Covid Vaccinations

Due to the current National Emergency announced by the Prime Minister we have started to vaccinate patients at Marysville in dedicate clinics. So far we have vaccinated 198 patients this week, with minimal interruptions to our routine appointments .

If you need a first, second or booster dose we will book you an appointment.

If we do not have capacity here there are other local vaccination centres you can attend using via 119. Please follow our page on Facebook or our website for the latest information. For information on walk in clinics please visit: <https://www.stwics.org.uk/our-priorities/covid-19-vaccination-programme/walk-in-clinic-times>

If you or anyone in your household has coronavirus symptoms or has had a positive test within 10 days, please do not come into the surgery. As a healthcare environment will still expect patients and staff to wear a mask in the surgery to ensure we protect the vulnerable.

A “flood of urines”!

Female and think you have a urine infection? Please use your Pharmacist if you are aged 18-60, as they can issue antibiotics if needed. They will need a sample when you attend.

Please only drop urine samples into the practice that you have been REQUESTED to bring in. A urine sample is not always needed to make a diagnosis of an infection in older adults and so we will book a phone call in the first instance usually to assess you. We receive urine samples for many reasons and it is very difficult to deal with an unexpected sample—to work out what it is for—it creates a lot of work! If a sample is needed Reception will advise you which Pharmacy you can take it to.



NHS App

We would encourage you to download the NHS App to access your information including your Covid vaccination status. For more information please visit this website

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-app/>

We have no control over this app and access to it, the information is pulled from the clinical system where your data is stored.



***NEW* MOBILE CHECK IN NOW AVAILABLE AT MARYSVILLE!**

JUST SCAN THE QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE TO CHECK IN TO YOUR APPOINTMENT