

# Shay Lane Medical Centre -Kelman Quality Report

Shay Lane Medical Centre Shay Lane Hale Barns Altrincham WA15 8NZ Tel: 0161 980 3835 Website: www.shaylane.org

Date of inspection visit: 24th March 2016 Date of publication: 13/05/2016

This report describes our judgement of the quality of care at this service. It is based on a combination of what we found when we inspected, information from our ongoing monitoring of data about services and information given to us from the provider, patients, the public and other organisations.

#### Ratings

Overall rating for this service	Good	
Are services safe?	Good	
Are services effective?	Good	
Are services caring?	Good	
Are services responsive to people's needs?	Good	
Are services well-led?	Good	

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### **Overall summary**

### Letter from the Chief Inspector of General Practice

We carried out an announced comprehensive inspection at Shay Lane Medical Practice on 24 March 2016. Overall the practice is rated as good.

Our key findings across all the areas we inspected were as follows:

- There was an open and transparent approach to safety and a system in place for reporting and recording significant events.
- Risks to patients were assessed and well managed with the exception of checks for reception staff who were used as chaperones. However these had been identified and addressed before the inspection.
- Staff assessed patients' needs and delivered care in line with current evidence based guidance. Staff had been trained to provide them with the skills, knowledge and experience to deliver effective care and treatment.

- Patients said they were treated with compassion, dignity and respect and they were involved in their care and decisions about their treatment.
- Information about services and how to complain was available and easy to understand. Improvements were made to the quality of care as a result of complaints and concerns.
- Patients said they found it easy to make an appointment with a named GP and there was continuity of care, with urgent appointments available the same day.
- The practice had good facilities and was well equipped to treat patients and meet their needs.
- There was a clear leadership structure and staff felt supported by management. The practice proactively sought feedback from staff and patients, which it acted on.
- The provider was aware of and complied with the requirements of the duty of candour.

We saw an area of outstanding practice:

Learning arising out a significant event led to one of the GPs refining and developing the information templates used within the patient electronic system in order to minimise the same error arising again. Information was shared with neighbouring practices at a GP Forum within the Clinical Commissioning Group and feedback for the presentation was very positive. As a result of the presentation the new template has been adopted by the other practices minimising the error throughout the CCG.

The areas where the provider should make improvements are as follows :

- Introduce a system to manage clinical and non-clinical meetings more effectively and record and disseminate information therefrom.
- Install an emergency chord in the disabled toilet.
- Introduce a Patient Participation Group who meet in person with the practice to reflect the views of the patient population.

**Professor Steve Field CBE FRCP FFPH FRCGP** Chief Inspector of General Practice

#### The five questions we ask and what we found

We always ask the following five questions of services.

#### Are services safe?

The practice is rated as good for providing safe services.

- There was a system in place for reporting and recording significant events.
- Lessons were shared to make sure action was taken to improve safety in the practice.
- When things went wrong patients received reasonable support, information and a written apology. They were told about any actions to improve processes to prevent the same thing happening again.
- The practice had clearly defined and embedded systems, processes and practices in place to keep patients safe and safeguarded from abuse with the exception of Data Barring Service Checks for non-clinical staff.
- Risks to patients were assessed and well managed with the exception of checks for reception staff who were used as chaperones.

#### Are services effective?

The practice is rated as good for providing effective services.

- 97% of patients with diabetes, on the register, who have had influenza immunisation in the preceding 1 August to 31 March (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was higher than the national average of94%
- Staff assessed needs and delivered care in line with current evidence based guidance.
- Clinical audits demonstrated quality improvement.
- Staff had the skills, knowledge and experience to deliver effective care and treatment.
- There was evidence of appraisals and personal development plans for all staff.

Staff worked with other health care professionals to understand and meet the range and complexity of patients' needs

#### Are services caring?

The practice is rated as good for providing caring services.

- Data from the national GP patient survey showed patients rated the practice higher than others for several aspects of care.
- 95% of patients said the GP was good at listening to them compared to the clinical commissioning group (CCG) average of 90% and the national average of 89%.

Good

Good

- Patients said they were treated with compassion, dignity and respect and they were involved in decisions about their care and treatment.
- Information for patients about the services available was easy to understand and accessible.
- We saw staff treated patients with kindness and respect, and maintained patient and information confidentiality.

#### Are services responsive to people's needs?

The practice is rated as good for providing responsive services.

- Practice staff reviewed the needs of its local population and engaged with the NHS England Area Team and Clinical Commissioning Group to secure improvements to services where these were identified. They provided twice weekly visits to the local senior living accommodation, participated in the identification of people with dementia and had recently increased staffing levels to meet the demands of the local population.
- Patients said they found it easy to make an appointment with a named GP and there was continuity of care, with urgent appointments available the same day.
- The practice had good facilities and was well equipped to treat patients and meet their needs.
- Information about how to complain was available and easy to understand and evidence showed the practice responded quickly to issues raised. Learning from complaints was shared with staff and other stakeholders.

#### Are services well-led?

The practice is rated as good for being well-led.

- The practice had a clear vision and strategy to deliver high quality care and promote good outcomes for patients. Staff were clear about the vision and their responsibilities in relation to it.
- There was a clear leadership structure and staff felt supported by management. The practice had a number of policies and procedures to govern activity and held regular governance meetings.
- There was an overarching governance framework which supported the delivery of the strategy and good quality care. This included arrangements to monitor and improve quality and identify risk.

Good

- The provider was aware of and complied with the requirements of the duty of candour. The partners encouraged a culture of openness and honesty. The practice had systems in place for notifiable safety incidents and ensured this information was shared with staff to ensure appropriate action was taken
- The practice proactively sought feedback from staff and patients, which it acted on. The patient participation group was active.
- There was a strong focus on continuous learning and improvement at all levels.

#### The six population groups and what we found

We always inspect the quality of care for these six population groups.

#### **Older people**

The practice is rated as good for the care of older people.

- The practice offered proactive, personalised care to meet the needs of the older people in its population includingcare plans for older patients at risk of hospital admissions as well as specific holistic plans.
- Elderly patients and their care plans were reviewed on a quarterly basis and new patients were added to the register when required.
- The practice was responsive to the needs of older people, and offered home visits and urgent appointments for those with enhanced needs including home visits for acute problems and in order to provide seasonal vaccines.
- One of the GPs attended the local Senior Care Living residential home twice weekly to review the residents.

#### People with long term conditions

The practice is rated as good for the care of people with long-term conditions.

- Nursing staff had lead roles in chronic disease management and patients at risk of hospital admission were identified as a priority.
- Our data showed that patients with diabetes were receiving appropriate interventions which were higher than or in line with national averages. For example, the percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, receiving appropriate blood tests was 79% compared to the national average of 77%. Those patients receiving regular blood pressure reviews was 73% compared to 78% nationally andthose receiving the required immunisations was 97% compared to the national average of 94%.
- Longer appointments and home visits were available when needed.
- All these patients had a named GP and a structured annual review to check their health and medicines needs were being met. For those patients with the most complex needs, the named GP worked with relevant health and care professionals to deliver a multidisciplinary package of care.

#### Families, children and young people

The practice is rated as good for the care of families, children and young people.

Good



- There were systems in place to identify and follow up children living in disadvantaged circumstances and who were at risk, for example, children and young people who had a high number of A&E attendances. Immunisation rates were relatively high for all standard childhood immunisations.
- Patients told us that children and young people were treated in an age-appropriate way and were recognised as individuals, and we saw evidence to confirm this.
- The percentage of women aged 25-64 whose notes recorded that a cervical screening test had been performed in the preceding 5 years was 85% compared to 81% nationally.
- Sexually transmitted disease testing was highlighted and offered to 15-24 year olds.
- Appointments were available outside of school hours and the premises were suitable for children and babies.
- We saw positive examples of joint working with midwives, health visitors and school nurses.

### Working age people (including those recently retired and students)

The practice is rated as good for the care of working-age people (including those recently retired and students).

- The needs of the working age population, those recently retired and students had been identified and the practice had adjusted the services it offered to ensure these were accessible, flexible and offered continuity of care.
- The practice was proactive in offering online services as well as a full range of health promotion and screening that reflects the needs for this age group.
- Travel services such as safe travel advice, travel inoculation and yellow fever immunisations were available.
- Patients were encouraged to attend cancer screening such as breast, bowel and prostate testing. There was a practice protocol and alert on patient records for patients who did not return their bowel screening tests. Those patients were pro-actively encouraged to return their samples.
- The practice were involved in a CCG-wide scheme for extended hours involving a hub for the practices run by Trafford Primary Care (a GP Federation) providing GP and nursing appointments on a Saturday morning.

#### People whose circumstances may make them vulnerable

The practice is rated as good for the care of people whose circumstances may make them vulnerable.

Good

- The practice held a register of patients living in vulnerable circumstances including homeless people, travellers and those with a learning disability.
- The practice offered longer appointments for patients with a learning disability.
- The practice regularly worked with other health care professionals in the case management of vulnerable patients.
- The practice informed vulnerable patients about how to access various support groups and voluntary organisations.
- Staff knew how to recognise signs of abuse in vulnerable adults and children. Staff were aware of their responsibilities regarding information sharing, documentation of safeguarding concerns and how to contact relevant agencies in normal working hours and out of hours.

### People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia)

The practice is rated as good for the care of people experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia).

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98% of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses whose alcohol consumption has been recorded compared to the national average of 89%.

- The practice regularly worked with multi-disciplinary teams in the case management of patients experiencing poor mental health, including those with dementia.
- The practice carried out advance care planning for patients with dementia.
- The practice had told patients experiencing poor mental health about how to access various support groups and voluntary organisations.
- The practice had a system in place to follow up patients who had attended accident and emergency where they may have been experiencing poor mental health.
- Staff had a good understanding of how to support patients with mental health needs and dementia.

#### What people who use the service say

The national GP patient survey results were published on January 2016. The results showed the practice was performing in line or better than local and national averages. 244 survey forms were distributed and 110 were returned. This represented 1.8% of the practice's patient list.

- 92% of patients found it easy to get through to this practice by phone compared to the national average of 73%.
- 91% of patients were able to get an appointment to see or speak to someone the last time they tried compared to the national average of 85%.
- 90% of patients described the overall experience of this GP practice as good compared to the national average of 73%).

• 90% of patients said they would recommend this GP practice to someone who has just moved to the local area compared to the national average of 78%).

As part of our inspection we also asked for CQC comment cards to be completed by patients prior to our inspection. We received 21 comment cards which were all positive about the standard of care received. We read satisfied comments from patients with mental health conditions, long term conditions and acute presentations.

We spoke with three patients during the inspection. All those patients said they were satisfied with the care they received and thought staff were approachable, committed and caring. Results from the friends and family test showed that patients would recommend the practice and we saw satisfactory comments recorded.

#### Areas for improvement

#### Action the service SHOULD take to improve

The areas where the provider should make improvements are as follows :

• Introduce a system to manage clinical and non-clinical meetings more effectively and record and disseminate information therefrom.

#### Outstanding practice

Learning arising out a significant event led to one of the GPs refining and developing the information templates used within the patient electronic system in order to minimise the same error arising again. Information was shared with neighbouring practices at a GP Forum within

- Install an emergency chord in the disabled toilet.
- Introduce a Patient Participation Group who meet in person with the practice to reflect the views of the patient population.

the Clinical Commissioning Group and feedback for the presentation was very positive. As a result of the presentation the new template has been adopted by the other practices minimising the error throughout the CCG.



# Shay Lane Medical Centre -Kelman

**Detailed findings** 

### Our inspection team

#### Our inspection team was led by:

Our inspection team was led by a CQC Lead Inspector. The team included a GP specialist adviser, and a practice manager specialist adviser.

### Background to Shay Lane Medical Centre - Kelman

Shay Lane Medical Practice is situated in Hale Barns in modern purpose built premises which is shared with another practice. Their reception area is furthest from the main entrance and there is a new on-site pharmacy. The practice has parking on-site, disabled parking and is near to public transport links.

There are three partner GPs, two male and one female offering a total of twenty six sessions per week. The advanced nurse practitioner who has been with the practice for 17 years is leaving in April 2016 and will be replaced by locum services in the interim. There is also a practice nurse and a health care assistant. The practice offers services to a stable population of 6,200 patients under a Personal Medical Services contract and is not a training or teaching practice. The practice is situated in an area with low deprivation and low diversity.

The practice is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 6.00pm and patients have access to a dedicated out of hours service when the practice is closed. Appointments are available every day between 9am and 11.00am and 3pm and 5pm.

There are no extended hours offered at the location. The practice is part of the Trafford Deflection scheme set up by Trafford Clinical Commissioning Group as a response to local Accident & Emergency pressures meaning that an extra three appointments were available for emergencies at the end of each day. Patients also have access to appointments on a Saturday morning at a nearby practice via the Trafford "Hub" which has been set up as part of the response to seven day access.

# Why we carried out this inspection

We carried out a comprehensive inspection of this service under Section 60 of the Health and Social Care Act 2008 as part of our regulatory functions. The inspection was planned to check whether the provider is meeting the legal requirements and regulations associated with the Health and Social Care Act 2008, to look at the overall quality of the service, and to provide a rating for the service under the Care Act 2014.

# How we carried out this inspection

Before visiting, we reviewed a range of information we hold about the practice and asked other organisations to share what they knew. We carried out an announced visit on 24th March 2016. During our visit we:

# **Detailed findings**

- Spoke with a range of staff including two of the GP partners, the practice manager, the advanced nurse practitioner and members of the reception and administration staff.
- We also spoke with patients who used the service.
- Observed how patients were being cared for.
- Reviewed anonymised sections of personal care or treatment records of patients.

Reviewed comment cards where patients and members of the public shared their views and experiences of the service.

To get to the heart of patients' experiences of care and treatment, we always ask the following five questions:

- Is it safe?
- Is it effective?
- Is it caring?
- Is it responsive to people's needs?

• Is it well-led?

We also looked at how well services were provided for specific groups of people and what good care looked like for them. The population groups are:

- Older people
- People with long-term conditions
- Families, children and young people
- Working age people (including those recently retired and students)
- People whose circumstances may make them vulnerable
- People experiencing poor mental health (including people with dementia).

Please note that when referring to information throughout this report, for example any reference to the Quality and Outcomes Framework data, this relates to the most recent information available to the CQC at that time.

# Are services safe?

### Our findings

#### Safe track record and learning

There was an effective system in place for reporting and recording significant events.

- Staff told us they would inform the practice manager of any incidents and there was a recording form available on the practice's computer system. The incident recording form supported the recording of notifiable incidents under the duty of candour. (The duty of candour is a set of specific legal requirements that providers of services must follow when things go wrong with care and treatment).
- We saw evidence that when things went wrong with care and treatment, patients were informed of the incident, received reasonable support, information, a written apology and were told about any actions to improve processes to prevent the same thing happening again.
- The practice carried out a thorough analysis of the significant events and shared the outcomes with all staff through meetings and email communications.

We reviewed safety records, incident reports, patient safety alerts and minutes of meetings where these were discussed. We saw evidence that lessons were shared and action was taken to improve safety in the practice. For example, we saw a larger number of documented significant events in the past twelve months with further evidence of more being recorded over previous years. The incidents were categorised into clinical and non-clinical and were well documented in a standard format with clear actions and identified learning. The log of significant events also included positive events.

#### **Overview of safety systems and processes**

The practice had clearly defined and embedded systems, processes and practices in place to keep patients safe and safeguarded from abuse, which included:

• Arrangements were in place to safeguard children and vulnerable adults from abuse. These arrangements reflected relevant legislation and local requirements. Policies were accessible to all staff. The policies clearly outlined who to contact for further guidance if staff had concerns about a patient's welfare. There was a lead member of staff for safeguarding. The GPs attended safeguarding meetings when possible and always provided reports where necessary for other agencies. Staff demonstrated they understood their responsibilities and all had received training on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults relevant to their role. GPs were trained to child safeguarding level 3. The practice nurses were also trained to the appropriate levels or above.

- Notices in the waiting room and consulting rooms advised patients that chaperones were available if required. Not all non-clinical staff who acted as chaperones were trained for the role or had received a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check. (DBS checks identify whether a person has a criminal record or is on an official list of people barred from working in roles where they may have contact with children or adults who may be vulnerable). The practice had identified this prior to our visit and were open in advising us that it was the case. They had begun the process of the required checks and had recalled the non-clinical staff from that duty until all satisfactory checks had been received. In the meantime only staff who had the required checks, such as nursing staff, were being used for this purpose.
- The practice maintained appropriate standards of cleanliness and hygiene. We observed the premises to be clean and tidy. The practice nurse was the infection control clinical lead who liaised with the local infection prevention teams to keep up to date with best practice. There was an infection control protocol in place and staff had received up to date training. Annual infection control audits were undertaken and we saw evidence that action was taken to address any improvements identified as a result.
- The arrangements for managing medicines, including emergency medicines and vaccines, in the practice kept patients safe (including obtaining, prescribing, recording, handling, storing, security and disposal).
  Processes were in place for handling repeat prescriptions which included the review of high risk medicines. Blank prescription forms and pads were securely stored and there were systems in place to monitor their use.
- The practice carried out regular medicines audits, with the support of the local CCG pharmacy teams, to ensure prescribing was in line with best practice guidelines for safe prescribing. One of the nurses had qualified as an Independent Prescriber and could therefore prescribe

### Are services safe?

medicines for specific clinical conditions. She received mentorship and support from the medical staff for this extended role. Patient Group Directions had been adopted by the practice to allow nurses to administer medicines in line with legislation. Health Care Assistants were trained to administer vaccines and medicines against a patient specific prescription or direction from a prescriber.

• We reviewed a number of personnel files and found appropriate recruitment checks had been undertaken prior to employment. For example, proof of identification, references, qualifications, registration with the appropriate professional body and the appropriate checks through the Disclosure and Barring Service (where these had been considered necessary).

#### Monitoring risks to patients

Risks to patients were assessed and well managed.

 There were procedures in place for monitoring and managing risks to patient and staff safety. The practice manager was the health and safety representative. The practice had up to date fire risk assessments and carried out regular fire drills. All electrical equipment was checked to ensure the equipment was safe to use and clinical equipment was checked to ensure it was working properly. The practice had a variety of other risk assessments in place to monitor safety of the premises such as control of substances hazardous to health and infection control and legionella (Legionella is a term for a particular bacterium which can contaminate water systems in buildings). • Arrangements were in place for planning and monitoring the number of staff and mix of staff needed to meet patients' needs. There was a rota system in place for all the different staffing groups to ensure enough staff were on duty. Staff were able to cover each other's roles when required and worked effectively as a team.

### Arrangements to deal with emergencies and major incidents

The practice had adequate arrangements in place to respond to emergencies and major incidents.

- There was an instant messaging system on the computers in all the consultation and treatment rooms which alerted staff to any emergency. However there was no emergency chord in the disabled toilet.
- All staff received annual basic life support training and there were emergency medicines available in the treatment room.
- The practice had a defibrillator available on the premises and oxygen with adult and children's masks. A first aid kit and accident book were available.
- Emergency medicines were easily accessible to staff in a secure area of the practice and all staff knew of their location. All the medicines we checked were in date and stored securely.
- The practice had a comprehensive business continuity plan in place for major incidents such as power failure or building damage. The plan included emergency contact numbers for staff.

### Are services effective?

(for example, treatment is effective)

### Our findings

#### **Effective needs assessment**

The practice assessed needs and delivered care in line with relevant and current evidence based guidance and standards, including National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) best practice guidelines.

- The practice had systems in place to keep all clinical staff up to date. Staff had access to guidelines from NICE and used this information to deliver care and treatment that met patients' needs.
- The practice monitored that these guidelines were followed through risk assessments, audits and random sample checks of patient records.

### Management, monitoring and improving outcomes for people

The practice used the information collected for the Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF) and performance against national screening programmes to monitor outcomes for patients. (QOF is a system intended to improve the quality of general practice and reward good practice). The most recent published results were 98.5% of the total number of points available

This practice was not an outlier for any QOF (or other national) clinical targets. Data from 1/4/2014 to 31/3/2015 showed:

Performance for diabetes related indicators was similar to the national average.

- The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last IFCCHbA1c is 64 mmol/mol or less in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was 79% compared 78% nationally
- The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, in whom the last blood pressure reading (measured in the preceding 12 months) is 140/80 mmHg or less (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was 73% compared 78% nationally
- The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, who have had influenza immunisation in the preceding 1 August to 31 March (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was 97% compared to 94% nationally

- The percentage of patients with diabetes, on the register, whose last measured total cholesterol (measured within the preceding 12 months) is 5 mmol/l or less (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was 80% compared to 80% nationally
- The percentage of patients on the diabetes register, with a record of a foot examination and risk classification within the preceding 12 months (01/04/2014 to 31/03/ 2015) was 90% compared to 88% nationally

Performance for mental health related indicators was similar to the national average.

- The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses who have a comprehensive, agreed care plan documented in the record, in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2014 to 31/ 03/2015)was 90% compared to 88% nationally
- The percentage of patients with schizophrenia, bipolar affective disorder and other psychoses whose alcohol consumption has been recorded in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was 98% compared to 89%
- The percentage of patients diagnosed with dementia whose care has been reviewed in a face-to-face review in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was 84% compared to 84%
- The percentage of patients with physical and/or mental health conditions whose notes record smoking status in the preceding 12 months (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015) was 96% compared to 94%

There was evidence of quality improvement including clinical audit.

- There had been two full cycle clinical audits completed in the last two years. Both of those audits showed quality and assurance of patient safety and had a positive impact on patient outcomes.
- We also reviewed three other audits the practice had undertaken to review cervical smears, the cold chain process and child and adult safeguarding. There was evidence of continuous audit in the practice which we saw going back for more than three years.
- The practice participated in local audits, national benchmarking, accreditation and peer review.

### Are services effective? (for example, treatment is effective)

• Findings were used by the practice to improve services. For example, the practice had reviewed all their services prior to the inspection and identified areas themselves where they could improve. As a result of that review, actions being taken included medicines management training for non-clinical staff, improving discussion and recording of individual patient care issues at meetings, ways to improve first contact at reception and multidisciplinary team meetings booked from April onwards to enhance co-working across all teams.

Information about patients' outcomes was used to make improvements. For example as a direct outcome of a significant event one of the GPs refined and developed the information template used within the patient electronic system in order to minimise the same error arising again. The information was shared with neighbouring practices at a GP Forum within the Clinical Commissioning Group and feedback from the presentation was very positive. As a result of the presentation the new template was adopted by the other practices minimising the error throughout the CCG.

#### **Effective staffing**

Staff had the skills, knowledge and experience to deliver effective care and treatment.

- The practice had an induction programme for all newly appointed staff. This covered such topics as safeguarding, infection prevention and control, fire safety, health and safety and confidentiality.
- The practice could demonstrate how they ensured role-specific training and updating for relevant staff. For example, we saw up to date training certification and reminders for nursing staff relating to diabetes, asthma, chronic obsessive pulmonary disease, cytology, immunisation, infection control and basic life support.
- Staff administering vaccines and taking samples for the cervical screening programme had received specific training which had included an assessment of competence. Staff who administered vaccines could demonstrate how they stayed up to date with changes to the immunisation programmes, for example by access to on line resources and discussion at practice meetings.
- The learning needs of staff were identified through a system of appraisals, meetings and reviews of practice development needs. Staff had access to appropriate training to meet their learning needs and to cover the

scope of their work. This included ongoing support, one-to-one meetings, coaching and mentoring, clinical supervision and facilitation and support for revalidating GPs. All staff had received an appraisal within the last 12 months.

• Staff received training that included: safeguarding, fire safety awareness, basic life support and information governance. Staff had access to and made use of e-learning training modules and in-house training.

#### Coordinating patient care and information sharing

The information needed to plan and deliver care and treatment was available to relevant staff in a timely and accessible way through the practice's patient record system and their intranet system.

- This included care and risk assessments, care plans, medical records and investigation and test results.
- The practice shared relevant information with other services in a timely way, for example when referring patients to other services.

Staff worked together and with other health and social care professionals to understand and meet the range and complexity of patients' needs and to assess and plan ongoing care and treatment. This included when patients moved between services, including when they were referred, or after they were discharged from hospital. Meetings took place with other health care professionals generally via telephone or by 1-1 meetings with specific teams such as health visitors or district nurses. The practice had identified that improvement could be achieved by initiating better and more multidisciplinary meetings and these had been arranged to improve communication.

#### Consent to care and treatment

Staff sought patients' consent to care and treatment in line with legislation and guidance.

 <>taff understood the relevant consent and decision-making requirements of legislation and guidance, including the Mental Capacity Act 2005. When providing care and treatment for children and young people, staff carried out assessments of capacity to consent in line with relevant guidance.

### Are services effective?

### (for example, treatment is effective)

• Where a patient's mental capacity to consent to care or treatment was unclear the GP or practice nurse assessed the patient's capacity and, recorded the outcome of the assessment.

#### Supporting patients to live healthier lives

The practice identified patients who may be in need of extra support. For example:

- Patients receiving end of life care, carers, those at risk of developing a long-term condition and those requiring advice on their diet, smoking and alcohol.
- Patients were signposted to the relevant services when required.
- The health care assistant was able to give advice on diet and smoking cessation if requested.

The practice's uptake for the cervical screening programme was 78% which was higher than the national average of 74%. There was a policy to offer telephone reminders for patients who did not attend for their cervical screening test. The practice demonstrated how they encouraged uptake of the screening programme by encouraging on the spot testing when patients attended for different reasons and ensuring a female sample taker was available. The practice also encouraged its patients to attend national screening programmes for bowel and breast cancer screening. There were failsafe systems in place to ensure results were received for all samples sent for the cervical screening programme and the practice followed up women who were referred as a result of abnormal results. A recent audit had taken place.

Childhood immunisation rates for the vaccinations given were higher than national averages. For example, childhood immunisation rates for the vaccinations given to under two year olds ranged from 95%-100% and five year olds from 95%-100%.

Patients had access to appropriate health assessments and checks. These included health checks for new patients and NHS health checks for patients aged 40–74. Appropriate follow-ups for the outcomes of health assessments and checks were made, where abnormalities or risk factors were identified.

# Are services caring?

### Our findings

#### Kindness, dignity, respect and compassion

We observed members of staff were courteous and very helpful to patients and treated them with dignity and respect.

- Curtains were provided in consulting rooms to maintain patients' privacy and dignity during examinations, investigations and treatments.
- We noted that consultation and treatment room doors were closed during consultations; conversations taking place in these rooms could not be overheard.
- Reception staff knew when patients wanted to discuss sensitive issues or appeared distressed they could offer them a private room to discuss their needs.

All of the 21 patient Care Quality Commission comment cards we received were positive about the service experienced. Patients said they felt the practice offered an excellent service and staff were helpful, caring and treated them with dignity and respect.

We spoke with three members of the patient participation group (PPG). They also told us they were satisfied with the care provided by the practice and said their dignity and privacy was respected. Comment cards highlighted that staff responded compassionately when they needed help and provided support when required.

Results from the national GP patient survey showed patients felt they were treated with compassion, dignity and respect. The practice was above average for its satisfaction scores on consultations with GPs and nurses. For example:

- 95% of patients said the GP was good at listening to them compared to the clinical commissioning group (CCG) average of 90% and the national average of 89%.
- 94% of patients said the GP gave them enough time compared to the CCG average of 86% and the national average of 87%).
- 99% of patients said they had confidence and trust in the last GP they saw compared to the CCG average of 97% and the national average of 95%)

- 94% of patients said the last GP they spoke to was good at treating them with care and concern compared to the CCG average of 87% and national average of 85%).
- 97% of patients said the last nurse they spoke to was good at treating them with care and concern compared to the CCG average of 93% and national average of 91%).
- 96% of patients said they found the receptionists at the practice helpful compared to the CCG average of 88% and the national average of 87%)

### Care planning and involvement in decisions about care and treatment

Patients told us they felt involved in decision making about the care and treatment they received. They also told us they felt listened to and supported by staff and had sufficient time during consultations to make an informed decision about the choice of treatment available to them. Patient feedback from the comment cards we received was also positive and aligned with these views. We also saw that care plans were personalised.

Results from the national GP patient survey showed patients responded positively to questions about their involvement in planning and making decisions about their care and treatment. Results were higher than local and national averages. For example:

- 94% of patients said the last GP they saw was good at explaining tests and treatments compared to the CCG average of 88% and the national average of 86%.
- 91% of patients said the last GP they saw was good at involving them in decisions about their care compared to the CCG average of 84% and national average of 82%.
- 85% of patients said the last nurse they saw was good at involving them in decisions about their care compared to the national average of 85%)

The practice provided facilities to help patients be involved in decisions about their care:

- Staff told us that translation services were available for patients who did not have English as a first language. We saw notices informing patients this service was available.
- Information leaflets were available in easy read format.

### Are services caring?

• The website contained information about how to access services and how to contact the practice for more information about their care.

### Patient and carer support to cope emotionally with care and treatment

Patient information leaflets and notices were available in the patient waiting area which told patients how to access a number of support groups and organisations. Information about support groups was also available on the practice website.

The practice's computer system alerted GPs if a patient was also a carer. The practice had identified patients who were

carers and they were coded on the electronic records. A member of staff provided an example and explained what steps would be taken to encourage carers to seek assistance and help about their own health and mental wellbeing. Written information was available to direct carers to the various avenues of support available to them.

Staff told us that if families had suffered bereavement, their usual GP contacted them or sent them a sympathy card. This call was either followed by a patient consultation at a flexible time and location to meet the family's needs and/or by giving them advice on how to find a support service.

# Are services responsive to people's needs?

(for example, to feedback?)

# Our findings

#### Responding to and meeting people's needs

The practice reviewed the needs of its local population and engaged with the NHS England Area Team and Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to secure improvements to services where these were identified.

- The practice offered appointments on a Saturday morning as part of the Trafford-wide seven day access.
- Nurse appointments were available throughout the week from 8.30am and up until 5.30pm when required.
- There were longer appointments available for patients with a learning disability and others who needed them.
- Home visits were available for older patients and patients who had clinical needs which resulted in difficulty attending the practice. One of the GPs carried out twice-weekly pro-active visits to the neighbouring residential home (which accommodated patients with dementia).
- Same day appointments were available for children and those patients with medical problems that require same day consultation.
- Asthma reviews for children were organised around school holidays.
- Patients were able to receive travel vaccinations available on the NHS as well as those only available privately/were referred to other clinics for vaccines available privately.
- There were disabled facilities, a hearing loop and translation services available. However, there was no alarm in the disabled toilet.
- On-line requests for travel services were available to patients.

#### Access to the service

The practice was open Monday to Friday from 8.30am until 6.00pm and patients had access to a dedicated out of hours service when the practice was closed. Appointments

were available every day between 9am and 11.00am and 3pm and 5pm. On the day appointments were available and we saw that the appointments were available on the afternoon of inspection if needed.

Extended hours appointments were offered on a Saturday through the Trafford-wide hub. In addition to pre-bookable appointments that could be booked up to six weeks in advance, urgent appointments were also available for people that needed them.

Results from the national GP patient survey showed that patient's satisfaction with how they could access care and treatment was comparable to local and national averages.

- 85% of patients were satisfied with the practice's opening hours compared to the national average of 75%.
- 92% of patients said they could get through easily to the practice by phone compared to the national average of 73%).

People told us on the day of the inspection that they were able to get appointments when they needed them.

#### Listening and learning from concerns and complaints

The practice had an effective system in place for handling complaints and concerns.

- Its complaints policy and procedures were in line with recognised guidance and contractual obligations for GPs in England.
- There was a designated responsible person who handled all complaints in the practice.
- We saw that information was available to help patients understand the complaints system through posters, information leaflets and information on the practice website.

We looked at complaints received in the last 12 months and saw they were handled appropriately. Lessons were learnt from individual concerns and complaints and also from analysis of trends and action was taken to as a result to improve the quality of care.

### Are services well-led?

(for example, are they well-managed and do senior leaders listen, learn and take appropriate action)

### Our findings

#### Vision and strategy

The practice had a clear vision to deliver high quality care and promote good outcomes for patients.

- The practice had a mission statement and staff knew and understood the values.
- The practice had a robust strategy and supporting business plans which reflected the vision and values and were regularly monitored.

#### **Governance arrangements**

The practice had an overarching governance framework which supported the delivery of the strategy and good quality care. This outlined the structures and procedures in place and ensured that:

- There was a clear staffing structure and that staff were aware of their own roles and responsibilities.
- Practice specific policies were implemented and were available to all staff.
- A comprehensive understanding of the performance of the practice was maintained.
- A programme of continuous clinical and internal audit was used to monitor quality and to make improvements.
- There were robust arrangements for identifying, recording and managing risks, issues and implementing mitigating actions.

#### Leadership and culture

On the day of inspection the partners in the practice demonstrated they had the experience, capacity and capability to run the practice and ensure high quality care. They told us they prioritised safe, high quality and compassionate care and provided evidence that this was the case. Staff told us the partners were approachable and always took the time to listen to all members of staff.

The provider was aware of and had systems in place to ensure compliance with the requirements of the duty of candour. (The duty of candour is a set of specific legal requirements that providers of services must follow when things go wrong with care and treatment). This included support and training for all staff on communicating with patients about notifiable safety incidents. The partners encouraged a culture of openness and honesty. The practice had systems in place to ensure that when things went wrong with care and treatment:

- The practice gave affected people reasonable support, truthful information and a verbal and written apology
- The practice kept written records of verbal interactions as well as written correspondence.

There was a clear leadership structure in place and staff felt supported by management.

- Staff told us the practice held regular team meetings.
- Staff told us there was an open culture within the practice and they had the opportunity to raise any issues at team meetings and felt confident and supported in doing so.
- Staff said they felt respected, valued and supported, particularly by the partners in the practice. All staff were involved in discussions about how to run and develop the practice, and the partners encouraged all members of staff to identify opportunities to improve the service delivered by the practice.

### Seeking and acting on feedback from patients, the public and staff

The practice encouraged and valued feedback from patients, the public and staff. It proactively sought patients' feedback and engaged patients in the delivery of the service.

- The practice had gathered feedback from patients through their virtual patient participation group (PPG) and through surveys and complaints received. However they did not have a PPG that met regularly in person. The virtual PPG was more of a reference group that undertook patient surveys and submitted proposals for improvements to the practice management team. We spoke to three of their members who told us how they raised their requests for change, but these requests and views were not representative of the practice population.
- The practice had gathered feedback from staff through meetings, appraisals and discussions. Staff told us they

### Are services well-led?

### (for example, are they well-managed and do senior leaders listen, learn and take appropriate action)

would not hesitate to give feedback and discuss any concerns or issues with colleagues and management. Staff told us they felt involved and engaged to improve how the practice was run. There was a focus on continuous learning and improvement at all levels within the practice. The practice team was forward thinking and part of local pilot schemes to improve outcomes for patients in the area.

#### **Continuous improvement**