

### **\*\*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION\*\*\***

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CHANGES TO OUR MEDICATION REVIEW PROCESS FROM MIS SEPTEMBER 2019**

As a practice we are continually looking into ways to enhance our patient care. With this in mind, we have thought carefully about how we could improve the way we conduct medication reviews.

### ***What is a medication review and why do I need one?***

It is good practice for your regular medication to be reviewed at least once a year. Medication reviews enable us to check that you are taking medication in the correct way, that the medication is treating any health condition(s) properly, that the dose of each medication is still right for you and that the medication you take is not causing any problematic side effects.

A medication review may or may not be combined with a blood test and/or other physical health checks which give us important information about how well managed your condition(s) is and how well the medication is working for you.

### ***What's changing from 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019?***

You will still receive a reminder message on your repeat prescription when your medication review is due but, rather than being asked to book an appointment straightaway, this message will prompt you to first fill in a short questionnaire about your medication. The questionnaire will be available online to our patients with online access. Alternatively, you can pick up a paper copy from reception. If you do not yet have online access but would like to, then please speak to reception.

### ***Why do I need to fill in a questionnaire?***

The purpose of the questionnaire is to make sure you get the most out of your medication review, for example, by identifying any blood tests you need beforehand, by making sure you are seen by the right healthcare professional to review your medication and by prompting you to think about any problems with/questions about your medication in advance of your review. The questionnaire will also help us to identify patients who might not need a face-to-face review at that time, thereby saving you a trip to the surgery.

### ***Anything else I need to know?***

Once you have submitted your medication review form, this information will be reviewed by your doctor. A message will appear on your next prescription advising you on what action, if any, your doctor wishes you to take next.

We understand that any change involves an equal amount of learning along the way and we don't always get it right first time. Once these changes are implemented, we would welcome any feedback on how you have found the process and if there are any areas where you feel we could improve things further.

**Thank you for working with us to improve the services at Greensands Medical Practice.**