

# Patient Group News



## Dispensary Challenges

Those of you who use the surgery Dispensary will have noticed that we have been under particular pressure here over the past few months.

There are several reasons for this, including a particularly bad run of staff illnesses and absence, increase in volume of items dispensed reflecting GP workload, and prolonged difficulties obtaining some items of stock.

You may have seen a recent documentary on ITV ( [Pharmacies: The New NHS Frontline? | ITV News](#)) illustrating the challenges facing community pharmacies, some of which are shared by us in the Jubilee Field Surgery Dispensary.

An average of 8 pharmacies are closing down each week and we have local experience of this very worrying trend.

We have increased the number of staff hours dedicated to the Dispensary and are working very hard to try and get back on an even keel.

We really appreciate your patience while we try to manage these difficulties.

## Support for Carers

In November, we were delighted to run a support clinic for those patients who also provide care for a friend or relative. A representative from Carer Support Wiltshire met with patients to assess financial and practical support needs, and each patient received a health check from one of our nursing team.

We had planned a gentle exercise class for Carers at Grittleton Village Hall also, but sadly the instructor was unwell so we hope to reschedule this for Spring when the weather warms up a little!

## Staff News

We have welcomed two new members of the Reception team in recent weeks, Hannah and Olivia. They are settling in brilliantly and we hope you will make them welcome.

We plan to host a student nurse on placement in April, and are delighted to support new clinicians in their training.

Thank you Nurse Vicky for arranging this!