



Marsh Medical Practice

Patient Participation Group (PPG) Newsletter

Issue 1: May 2026 Editor: Sharon,

What is a Patient participation group (PPG)

PPG stands for patient participation group, and they are made-up of a small group of volunteers who are registered members of the GP practice. Since April 2015, it has been a contractual requirement of NHS England for all GP practices to have a PPG and to '*make reasonable efforts for this to be representative of the practice population*'. Although our PPG has been active for a few years, we still only have three members and we're looking for more to make the group more representative of the population and to have a stronger voice.

If you're interested in finding out more, or joining the PPG, please contact the surgery for more details.

Get Involved – Your Voice Matters!

We're always looking for new members to join the Patient Participation Group (PPG). Whether you're passionate about improving local healthcare, have ideas to share, or simply want to stay informed, your input is invaluable.

 Join us today and help shape the future of Marsh Medical Practice. Please leave your name at reception and they will contact us.

Meet the current PPG Members:

- Sharon
- Carol
- Vicki

Sharon

Hi, I am Sharon. I am currently the Chair of the PPG. I have worked in healthcare for all my working life, 40 years, and I am a psychiatric social worker by profession. I am currently working full time in a large Mental Health and community trust as an Associate Director and lead the equality diversity and inclusion agenda, alongside the recovery (peer support/recovery college developments). I have my own significant health challenges and have established many voluntary groups, training courses, and innovations over the years. I strongly advocate for the voice of the patient community and ensuring fair access and services for all, in particular from those within more rural or minority communities.



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Carol

Hi, I am Carol. My working background has always been in health services, eventually in public health, and after retirement I've continued to maintain an interest in healthcare services but from the perspective of a user. I have been a regular user of health services over the last 10 to 15 years and as a result of that, have maintained an interest in patient representation. I have been a member of Marsh Medical Practice's PPG for a few years, but this was disrupted somewhat during the pandemic. I've continued this as the PPG was recruiting new members and reforming. I believe it's really important for patients to have a representative voice in their healthcare and understand the services that are provided to them.

Vicki

Hi, I'm Vicki, a retired PE teacher currently living in Grainthorpe having moved here from Hertfordshire twenty five years ago. I became a private tutor to continue my passion for teaching and also volunteered at the village primary school. This led to me becoming a school governor which I enjoy. I believe in being involved in village life and I am also a Parish Councillor. I have Multiple Sclerosis and have been a wheelchair user for a long time now but with help I get out and about to pursue my interests. I love being outdoors and have a passion for carp fishing. I had never heard of PPG's until I joined the one at Marsh Medical Practice and it has opened my eyes to the stresses and restraints faced by all surgeries. We act as the critical friend to the practice. We are a small group, and we would welcome new members. Why not come and join us, we don't bite!

Want to find out more?

We are particularly keen to have more patients join the PPG team from other areas of the Marsh Medical Practice community to make us more representative. Younger patients, those who are carers, males, patients from minority communities and more rural areas.

If you think you might be interested but would like a chat initially then please ask at reception and they can drop us a message and one of the PPG will call you to discuss further.

Thank you

Sharon, Carol and Vicki – your Marsh Medical PPG team