Welcome to our third quarterly news update.

This update is to let you know what NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has achieved over the last few months and let you know about future opportunities to get involved.

Corby Urgent Care Centre now open

The new Corby Urgent Care Centre is now open on the Willowbrook Health Complex, Cottingham Road, Corby.

In October, the new urgent care service opened to patients, replacing the nurse-led walk in centre. This service is for the assessment and treatment of conditions which you think cannot wait for a GP appointment at your own practice, and requires urgent and necessary attention.

Examples include:

- Children with high temperatures
- Children and adults with breathing problems
- Bladder and other painful infections
- Abdominal pain
- Severe headaches
- Dizzy turns
- Mild and moderate injuries and burns
- Worrying rashes
- New unexplained symptoms
- Worrying worsening of a long term condition

No appointment is necessary, but patients will be seen in order of clinical priority, so patients may have to wait if their condition is not as serious as others.

The Corby Urgent Care Centre is open 8am-8pm, every day of the year. The new centre will bring a range of benefits to patients including a single point of access to urgent care services, reducing the need for patients to travel to A&E.

The centre contains short-term observation bays and will include an x-ray department with extended opening hours again so patients do not need to travel to a hospital for these services.
**News**

**Specialist Urology Outpatients Clinic**

Woodsend Medical Centre in Corby has opened the doors to its first Specialist Urology Outpatients Clinic. This is the first in the county to be offering a specialist hospital consultant service in a GP setting.

The new specialist consultant urologist’s outpatient clinic will see patients who do not respond to primary treatment and those who may need surgery. The enables local people to see a hospital consultant close to their home if this is necessary and is an example of close partnership working between the hospital and local GPs.

Dr Peter Wilczynski, Chair Designate of NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Group, said: ‘I’m delighted that we have worked in partnership with Kettering General Hospital to bring this outpatients clinic to Corby for the benefit of our patients. We are committed to bringing more health services to the local community in Corby, so this is a really significant step in bringing care closer to home. This innovative service will give patients access to the best care possible on their doorstep.”

**#Tweetwell**

In the run-up to Christmas, NHS Corby tweeted live from the Corby Urgent Care Centre as part of the national NHS “TweetWell” campaign.

The campaign aims to raise awareness of the right place to go for health advice and treatment. Local people took part by retweeting messages bearing the #tweetwell message.

Our Twitter and Facebook have been given a fresh look check them out:

www.twitter.com/NHSCorby
www.facebook.com/NHSCorby

**Health and Wellbeing Consultation**

In November, Corby residents took part in a countywide consultation to find out what health and wellbeing means to local people.

The consultation gathered feedback on a draft health and wellbeing strategy which has been developed to set out how local organisations will be working together to achieve meaningful, healthier, longer lives for the people of Northamptonshire.

The draft strategy aims for Northamptonshire to be recognised as a national centre of excellence in the quality of its health and social care and commitment to wellbeing for the benefit of all by 2015.

You can download the consultation report and strategy at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/hwb
Corby, My Healthcare Event

Our next public meeting will take place on February 19, 6-8pm at the Pen Green Centre, Rockingham Road.

The event will include discussions on plans for healthcare for Corby patients including urgent care and hospital services and an update on mental health services in Corby.

Please book your place in advance:

Online www.corbyccg.nhs.uk/event
Phone 01604 651160

Big Bowel Roadshow

Queens Square, Corby played host to an 8 metre long inflatable colon on 18 October 2012 as part of the “Big Bowel” roadshow.

Local people were able to walk through the colon and receive information about bowel cancer symptoms.

The roadshow is part of a campaign by the local NHS aimed at increasing awareness of bowel cancer, as well as encouraging people to take part in bowel screenings.

For more info www.talksooner.co.uk

Successful conference held to reduce medicines wastage

Over 100 healthcare professionals from across Northamptonshire attended a conference in November to discuss working together to reduce medicines wastage across the county, which costs the local NHS at least £4.6 million every year.

The conference was hosted by NHS Corby CCG and NHS Nene CCG and speakers included community, hospital and care home pharmacists, GPs, patient representatives and national experts. Dr Peter Wilczynski, Chair Designate at NHS Corby CCG was one of the key speakers. Its aim was to:

- Understand the value of waste medicines and what can be done locally to reduce waste
- Develop a whole system approach for tackling waste management
- Improve prescribing systems and repeat re-order systems
- Share best practice

The feedback from the conference will be used to inform a medicines waste reduction campaign during 2013.

Wrapped Up

A campaign has been launched to help vulnerable people, for example older people or those with long term health conditions, to keep warm and safe and prevent people needing to go to hospital during the winter months by the provision of simple and practical support.

Winter packs containing advice on how people can keep warm and well, a publicity drive to signpost vulnerable people to the designated helpline number 0845 677 2220 and other support will be distributed during mid January-February.

For further information visit www.wrappedup.org.uk or if you or someone you know needs support to keep warm call 0845 677 2220, 9am-12 noon Monday to Friday.
In October we submitted our application to the NHS Commissioning Board to become an authorised Clinical Commissioning Group (CCGs). This is part of the national process for CCGs to ensure they are in a position to take responsibility for commissioning local healthcare provision from April 2013. The outcome of our application will be announced in February 2013.

**Corby Clinical Commissioning Group**

**Handwashing Viral Video**

In October a fun video was produced of NHS staff in Northamptonshire washing their hands “Gangnam-style” to promote healthy hygiene.

The video has had over 95,500 views worldwide and can be viewed at: www.corbyccg.nhs.uk/video/handwashing-gangnam-style

**Dates for your diary**

19 February

Corby, My Healthcare Event, Pen Green Centre, 6pm-8pm

March - Date TBC

Corby Older Persons Health Forum

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**How can I get involved?**

We know how important the NHS and its services are to everyone, so we want to make sure that local people and organisations are involved every step of the way. We will keep you up-to-date with everything that is going on and we want to hear your views.

There are lots of different ways to join in shaping future healthcare in Corby, here are a few:

**Patient Participation Groups (PPGs)**

One of the best ways to have your say about local health services is to join your GP surgery’s PPG. These groups meet regularly, and as well as influencing what happens within your own practice, your views on Corby-wide issues can also be fed up to the NHS Corby CCG Governing Board. This will ensure that your views are considered before making decisions on behalf of your local area.

**Become a member**

If you would like to be involved and have your say or attend meetings at your local surgery, why not sign up to be a member of Pulse, our patient membership scheme. Sign up online at www.corbyccg.nhs.uk and you can take part in surveys, receive updates and invitations to local initiatives.

**Corby Older Persons’ Health Forum**

The local older persons’ forum always welcomes new members. The group meets regularly and tackles the interests of local older residents (generally the over 50s). Please visit www.corbyccg.nhs.uk or call 01536 400600 to find out when the next gathering is taking place.

**Organisations**

If you work or volunteer for a local organisation, you can get involved through the local Strategic Partnership Group, Mental Health Forum or Health and Wellbeing strategic group.