



Townsend House Medical Centre
Axminster Medical Practice
Seaton & Colyton Medical Practice
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TASC PCN NEWSLETTER

FLU & COVID VACCINATIONS UPDATE

Katie has now completed housebound flu for Townsend House and all the care home flu jabbing for the Seaton care homes – thank you Katie! Jane has been a great asset here too with practical and moral support for a huge job. We will be doing a debrief and review of how this went with a view to creating a more streamlined process for care home flus next year.

So far, we have achieved the following flu vaccination uptake:

Townsend House - 1620
Axminster Medical Practice - 3362
Seaton & Colyton - 2524

Further mop up clinics and one offs are taking place but the majority of the flu work is now complete for this year. Well done to everyone who has been involved for a very successful flu season.



FIRST CONTACT PHYSIO AND CHRONIC PAIN CLINICS

Over the last few years, we have successfully been working with the First Contact Physio team at Pure Physio. Our most recent physio, Chioma, has been settling into her clinics at Seaton & Colyton and Axminster with good feedback from patients. Most recent data from Pure Physio shows that; 90% of patients were managed within the service with no need for onward referral.

We are now in discussion with the Pure Physio team to trial some chronic pain clinics in Seaton and Axminster. Persistent pain and chronic MSK conditions are challenging for primary care due to the difficulty in achieving a resolution to the discomfort and pain. The clinics are run by Health and Wellbeing coaches who have been trained in coaching patients to live as effectively as possible with a degree of ongoing symptoms. We will be looking at how we can use a chronic pain service alongside the healthy weight coaching service provided by Toria and the social prescribing provided by Rachel.

We will be reviewing the most appropriate patients for this service and providing practices with information on the referral pathway shortly.

PCN PROJECTS – CLEAR Living Well CVD

James Appleby is our clinical lead on a new project to improve our hypertension management across the PCN practices. We have very high prevalence of hypertension and any improvements in the management of this will benefit the practices with significant time savings.

The project is in its early stages and we are currently discussing with practices what their existing processes involve, staff resources being use of tech. We will then be taking part in a facilitated workshop on 9th December when we will be inviting practice representatives to join us to discuss what is currently working well and where there are areas for development.

We expect this project to result in some measurable time and resource savings for practices and look forward to sharing our results with you in the coming months.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas meal for PCN staff with S&C staff at The Ship, December 12th - please RSVP to confirm attendance

Approved PLT dates for next year –
11 February 2026
12 May 2026
10 Sept 2026

PCN education sessions – tutorials;
January 15th AMP
February 26th TH
March 19th SCMP

PCN staff annual appraisals – these will be scheduled from January, please look out for an email with a pre-appraisal questionnaire for completion prior to the meeting.



FIT TESTING and LEARNING DISABILITIES

In the year to March 2026, the PCN has two clinical targets;

HI03: Percentage of patients on the Learning Disability register aged 14 or over, who received an annual Learning Disability Health Check and have a completed Health Action Plan in addition to a recording of ethnicity. The lower achievement threshold for this indicator is 60% and the upper threshold 80%. We are close to reaching the lower threshold and over the next couple of months we expect to reach the upper threshold.

CAN04: The proportion of patients who have had a lower gastrointestinal urgent suspected cancer referral in the reporting year where at least one urgent suspected cancer referral was accompanied by a faecal immunochemical test (FIT) result, with the result recorded in the 21 days leading up to the referral. We have to achieve 80% on this measure on 31 March and we are currently at 84% with this figure being constantly adjusted due to new patient diagnoses.

In order to achieve the learning disability target, Oonagh is leading on the health checks for all of our learning disability patients, with GPs involved in ensuring that the register is correct.

The cancer target is being met through the coding of FIT tests at the point that the test is requested, with a fortnightly follow up by Mia for all non-responders to ensure that tests are returned and recorded ready for use during the referral process. We are keen to ensure that any potentially urgent cancer referrals have the correct information provided to ensure that we don't have rejections that could potentially cause delays in treatment.

PCN HQ MOVE!

This month has seen the PCN take over what was the prescribing room at Seaton & Colyton – thank you to Juliet and Cat for supporting us with this move. There is now a dedicated space for the workflow team along with three additional workstations for 'hot desking' members of the ARRS team; Lou, Marie, Katie and Oonagh.

The new space is working well, bringing the ARRS staff together and giving the opportunity for some informal collaboration as well as more natural contact day to day.

Sarah and I work from Seaton & Colyton together on a Wednesday, too, making it easier for staff to find us for face-to-face conversations.

PCN NEWSLETTER

What would you like to see included?

Do you have content ideas that you would like to share?

Please share your thoughts d-icb.tascpcn@nhs.net.

All historic newsletters are uploaded to our website:

<https://www.tascpcn.nhs.uk/tasc-pcn-newsletters/>

SPOTLIGHT ON... THE PCN BOARD

Each month we will bring you a focus on one of the PCN teams to highlight some of the brilliant work that the PCN staff are doing across the three practices and within our local community.

The PCN Board comprises:
Juliet Rudkin - Practice Manager, Seaton & Colyton
Sharon Giles – Practice Manager, Axminster
Tony Volcek – Practice Manager, Townsend House
Dr John Twaddle - Partner, Seaton & Colyton
Dr Sarah Ellis – Partner, Axminster
Dr Dani Harris – Partner, Townsend House
Claire Ashby – PCN Manager

The meetings are scheduled and organised by
Sarah Farquhar – Business Support Officer for the PCN

The Board meets monthly and its core functions are to;

- manage the PCN budgets and ensure that these are spent in the most effective way on behalf of the practices
- comply with ICB requirements for financial reporting and claims
- meet the requirements of the PCN Network Contract DES which specifies the services which should be provided in our community
- review changes that are going on within our PCN practices and beyond and ensure that we respond appropriately to these
- support the practices through the PCN ARRS teams and focusing resource where it is needed most by our patients
- engage with other organisations who are active in the Axe Valley such as Waffle House Axminster and Seaton Restore
- work collaboratively to reduce duplication and improve the efficiencies across the Practices in our Network
- support the education of our trainees