

Dr Richard Davies
The Ridgeway Surgery
6/8 Feckenham Road
Astwood Bank
Redditch
Worcestershire
B96 6DS

Tel: 01527 892418
Richard.davies2@nhs.net

April 2012

Dear General Practitioner,

I am writing to update you about what's new in osteoporosis care in Worcestershire.

The Worcestershire "Osteoporosis Guidelines" have recently been updated and include the guidance on Denosumab. (The guidelines are in the ENDOCRINE chapter).

<http://www.worcestershire.nhs.uk/publications/policies-and-procedures/medicine-management--pharmacy--including-area-prescribing-committee/area-prescribing-committee.aspx#Endo>

Please find enclosed a laminated copy of the Quick Reference Guide for the primary and secondary prevention of osteoporosis fractures in women, which we hope will you find useful.

Map of Medicine for Osteoporosis has been developed in collaboration with senior clinical experts and has been localised for services in Worcestershire. The localised pathway reflects best practice and highlights local policies and procedures. It also provides links to relevant local documents, patient information, guidelines and websites. More information on the Map of Medicine, including how to access it using an Athens account or Smartcard is available here:

<http://www.wkp.nhs.uk/specialist-services/projects/map-of-medicine.aspx> .

Once logged in to the Map, to find the Osteoporosis pathway you can search on Osteoporosis or view all the localised pathways for Worcestershire in the Worcestershire Pathways area.

Finally the Royal College of General Practitioners and the National Osteoporosis Society have brought out an excellent online resource for Osteoporosis available at www.osteoporosis-resources.org.uk

The QOF osteoporosis domain is due to start in April and the following link outlines what is needed:-

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/PayAndContracts/GeneralMedicalServicesContract/QOF/Pages/ChangestoQOF2013.aspx> -

Full details of osteoporosis indicators are contained within the Quality and Outcomes Framework for 2012/13 (Guidance for practices):-

http://www.nhsemployers.org/Aboutus/Publications/Documents/QOF_2012-13.pdf

Shelia Reynolds is now working as the Specialist Osteoporosis Nurse within the Acute Trust and is working with both the Medical, Orthopaedic and Rheumatology consultants. She is working to raise awareness of osteoporosis in the hospital and patients with minor fragility fractures are being picked up and the bone strength addressed, for patients over the age of 55.

For those elderly patients who are able to attend exercise classes the 33 week postural stability falls prevention exercise programme – Ready Steady Go is specifically designed to provide strength and balance training for those at risk of falling.

A copy of the referral form and information leaflet is included with this letter for your information. We have the ability to set up classes, depending on demand, across the county thereby making sure that they are available and accessible. If you have any queries about the classes and their availability in your area please contact Emma Gardner:-

Emma Gardner, Wychavon Community Health Improvement Coordinator
Worcestershire PCT, Wychavon District Council, Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive
Pershore, Worcs, WR10 1PT
Direct Dial: 01386 565182
Email: emma.gardner@wychavon.gov.uk

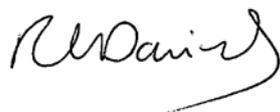
GPs can still refer elderly patients at high risk of falls for a multi-factorial falls risk assessment, which is undertaken by the Nurse advisors for the Elderly. They will undertake a comprehensive multi factorial falls risk assessment which includes risk of osteoporosis, lying and standing blood pressure and home environment assessment and timely access to appropriate equipment, assistive technology and adaptations. Referral to the Nurse advisors can be made by completing a Level 1 Falls Risk Case Finding Tool. In line with the falls pathway this should be sent or faxed to the falls Prevention team who will action the referral.

Please see link to the website below which includes all of the above references/ enclosed documents, for you/your colleagues' future reference/distribution:-

<http://www.hacw.nhs.uk/our-services/falls-prevention/health-professionals.aspx>

If you have any queries about any of these topics please send me an email.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Richard Davies
Falls Lead NHS Worcestershire
richard.davies2@nhs.net