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17 October 2017

Dear Patient,

### **Anticoagulation Warfarin Monitoring Service**

NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group is changing how we provide services locally.

We have had discussions with local people, colleagues at York Hospital and local GP Practices to understand how best to provide health services locally. Patients have told us they want to have a local service, be seen near to their home, have services that are convenient and only go to hospital when they really need to.

The anticoagulation service itself is changing. We have been working closely with York Hospital and your GP Practice to provide a service in a way that meets patients' expectations.

**The changes mean that patients will be seen at their GP Practice for their anticoagulation treatment rather than going to York Hospital, Selby Hospital or Asda for their blood test. Warfarin will then be wholly monitored by the GP surgery and not the hospital anticoagulation clinic.**

If there are any queries or patients need advice about warfarin they will need to contact their GP surgery. This is the way anticoagulation services are provided in many parts of the NHS nowadays.

The same high standards of patient safety and quality of care that you are used to receiving from the hospital will now be provided at your local GP practice by fully trained and experienced staff.

We think there are several improvements that will make the service even better for you:

1. A quick 10 minute appointment, where you should not have to wait long for your blood to be taken.
2. The new service does not involve having your blood taken from your arm but instead you will have a finger prick blood test which should be more comfortable.
3. You will get your results and dosing instructions at the appointment and your yellow book can be given back to you immediately.
4. Your GP Practice has full access to all your medical records that tells them how best to look after you.

This service has already started and so far we have received really good feedback from patients about the changes.

**Please contact your GP Practice to arrange your next appointment for your warfarin monitoring rather than attending the hospital, ASDA or booking in for your blood test. They will make you an appointment in their anticoagulation clinic for you to be seen.**

Yours Sincerely,



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**Dr Shaun O'Connell**  
Joint Medical Director  
Lead for Prescribing and Planned Care  
NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group



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**Dr Emma Olandj**  
Clinical lead for local anticoagulation services in General Practice  
GP at Priory Medical Group