



## Our new group practice

Who ?

What's happening and why?

When will it happen?

How will this affect patient care?

Who can you contact for further information?

## *Riverport Medical Practice* *Our First Newsletter*

**Who?** - The Riverport Practice will be made up of Orchard Surgery in St Ives, Parkhall Surgery in Somersham, Northcote House in St Ives & Fenstanton Surgery.

**What's happening & Why?** - The three individual practices submitted an application to NHS England & Cambridgeshire & Peterborough CCG requesting that we be allowed to merge and form a group practice. We are really pleased to announce that this has been approved and we are now working towards this aim. As three small practices we were all finding it difficult to meet the challenges of resilience, provision of appointments over extended hours and recruitment. As a group we are confident that we will be able to better manage these for our patients. One of the first big changes is that Orchard and Parkhall will change their clinical software so all sites will be using SystemOne. This needs to happen prior to the actual merger and is scheduled for August/September 18. After the official merger the systems at all sites will be linked. This merger has given our staff a new goal to work towards and we are all looking forward to our new way of working and providing more services for our patients across the sites.

**When will it happen?** We set 1st October 2018 as our preferred date and we are still confident that the first stages of the merger will happen at this time

**How will this affect patients and their care?** Initially the individual practices will retain their current telephone numbers so that you can contact us in the usual way. We will be able to offer you appointments at all sites giving you more choice of doctors and nurses with whom you may consult. We will have a choice of both male and female GPs, a Nurse Practitioner, Practice Nurses and Healthcare Assistants. There will be a management team dealing with the different aspects of general practice management and they will be supported by administrative and reception teams. As a group we will be able to offer a wider range of services to all our patients using the wider clinical expertise available to us. We are really excited about the merger and look forward to sharing all the benefits with our patients.

### NEED MORE INFORMATION?

We plan to issue regular updates in the following ways:

- ◆ Newsletters in the practices
- ◆ Articles in local magazines
- ◆ Information on our websites

Should you have any specific questions then please contact Jenny Parker either by letter at:

Northcote House Surgery, 8 Broad Leas, St Ives, PE27 5PT

Or by email

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