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PRESS RELEASE

New for Thurrock, pharmacists in GP surgeries to help manage long-term health conditions

Anesi Healthcare Ltd, a group of GP practices in Thurrock and Basildon, have been successful in gaining funding for a new NHS England scheme to recruit clinical pharmacists working in GP Practices.

The new initiative has seen over £100m investment across England to help alleviate pressure on GPs. The clinical pharmacists are highly trained experts in disease and medication that can work as part of the general practice team to provide specialist advice for patients, particularly the elderly and those with more than one health condition.

Denise Rabbette, Head of Medicines Optimisation at Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group said;

“We are very pleased to be able to improve access to healthcare through the use of clinical pharmacists. Recruitment for the pharmacists is starting imminently and we hope to have the scheme up and running by September. We have had issues in Thurrock with recruiting nurses and GPs, so we had to think about other ways to support patients’ healthcare needs.

“By taking responsibility for patients with chronic diseases, clinical pharmacists can enable GPs to focus on more complex patients. It is hoped this will prevent people who can’t get appointments, from going to A&E departments. The pharmacists will

work closely with community and hospital pharmacists to provide joined-up NHS pharmacy services for patients.”

Russell Vine, CEO Anesi Healthcare Ltd said:

“Winning the bid for funding means we can really start to make radical improvements in the service our practices can offer to patients. We are working to quickly recruit three clinical pharmacists from our known talent pool and hope to have them available as soon as possible. Whilst this bid covers Thurrock – we look to do the same in Basildon and Brentwood CCG area soon.”

Anesi Healthcare Ltd, is owned by a Federation of GP practices in Thurrock and Basildon, the Thurrock practices who will initially benefit from the first clinical pharmacists, include:

- Hassengate Medical Centre
- Sai Medical Centre
- Dr Yadava Practice
- Dr T Abela and Partners
- College Health at Corringham Health Centre
- The Surgery, Orsett

In addition to working with patients with long-term health conditions, clinical pharmacists may also carry out the following roles:

- Supporting people with their medicines review
- Providing support to vulnerable patients in reviewing their treatment
- Monitoring adherence to medication
- Educating patients on appropriate antibiotic use
- Improving medicine safety by encouraging patients to report side effects/benefits of medications.

The funding is for three years initially with funding on a sliding scale. The CCG hopes that more practices across Thurrock will be keen to bid for funding to have a pharmacist to support their patients.

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

To find out more, or to arrange an interview with the practices in the scheme, please contact Louise Banks on louise.banks3@nhs.net or call 01375 365810.

For further information on the Clinical Pharmacist in GP Practice funding, visit:
<https://www.england.nhs.uk/gp/gpfv/workforce/building-the-general-practice-workforce/cp-gp/>

About Anesi Healthcare Ltd

Anesi Healthcare is a GP Federation formed by a group of GP practices in Thurrock, Basildon and Billericay. They are owned by these [South Essex practices](#) who are shareholders. To find out more visit: <http://www.anesihealthcare.org.uk/about/>

About Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group

Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is responsible for the commissioning and delivery of local health care services. The CCG buys healthcare from hospitals, community and mental health services and some specialist services (service contracts with GPs, dentists, pharmacists and opticians are managed by [NHS England](#)).

Driven by clinicians, the CCG is supported by a wide range of professionals and strategic partners, to commission and deliver joined up seamless quality services to the public, patients and carers of Thurrock. Our vision is that the health and care experience for the people of Thurrock will be improved as a result of our working together. Further information about Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group is available from www.thurrockccg.nhs.uk