



**The Corner Surgery**  
Southport

Dr Hilal Mulla  
Dr Stephanie Woodcock  
Dr David Smith  
Dr Deborah Finn

117 Fylde Road  
Southport, PR9 9XP  
Tel: 01704 506055  
Fax: 01704 507054

*Special* **NEWSLETTER** *Edition*

## **TOTAL TRIAGE**

NHS GP surgeries have been asked to change to a 'total triage' model. This means that all appointment requests are now screened for potential COVID-19 symptoms by our reception staff; then patients are triaged by one of our clinicians. To reduce footfall in the surgery and support social distancing, our clinicians are assessing and treating as many patients as possible by telephone, video and online consultations. Therefore, it is more important than ever that we have your up to date contact details, especially your mobile number.

## **HOT SITES**

Since the start of the pandemic, Southport & Formby Health Ltd., our GP Federation, has been providing additional 'hot sites'. These have helped to keep local GP surgeries 'COVID-19 free' by seeing any unwell patients with potential COVID-19 symptoms. The GP Federation has also set up a home visiting service, to help us care for housebound patients and those who were 'social shielding'. We are very proud of how local GP surgeries have worked together to support these initiatives and help keep patients out of hospital.

## **OPEN FOR BUSINESS**

We want to reassure you that the surgery is still here for you if you need us – we are open, even if our doors are closed. We are starting to catch up with any routine reviews that had to be postponed earlier in the pandemic, so please contact us if yours is overdue. In particular, we are keen to see patients who are overdue their cervical smear. Also, please do not leave your illness or condition until it is too late, particularly if you have any of the following more urgent symptoms:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cancer/symptoms/>

## **NURSE PRACTITIONER**

We are excited to announce that from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020, Mrs Carol Thornton will be starting work as a full-time ANP (advanced nurse practitioner) at the surgery. Carol is highly-trained and experienced at assessing, diagnosing and treating many medical problems. This development will improve patient access at the surgery, by increasing the number and range of appointments that we are able to make available every weekday. Welcome to the surgery, Carol!