

# CALCOT



## THE ALLAN PRACTICE NEWSLETTER



### WE'VE GOT A NEW LOOK!

Welcome back!

If you've visited us recently, you might have noticed some exciting changes. Our reception area has undergone a stunning transformation, and we're thrilled with the new clean, bright, and airy atmosphere. We hope you find it as refreshing as we do! Additionally, we've made some updates to our parking arrangements, and so parking at Calcot Medical Centre is now easier for you when you come to see us. Don't forget to register your car at reception to ensure a smooth experience.



**new team member**

## **PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE**

When you called for an appointment recently, you may have been offered a slot with a Physician Associate (PA) and wondered what this role entails. We are excited to introduce Physician Associates to our practice. These healthcare professionals have a generalist medical education and work alongside our doctors to provide comprehensive care.

PAs are an integral part of our multidisciplinary team, helping diagnose common issues, manage health concerns, and form treatment plans. At the Allan Practice, our Physician Associate always discusses every patient she sees with the responsible GP, ensuring continuity and quality of care. You can trust them to listen, guide, and support you every step of the way.

We are delighted that our PA, Chanel Ofori, has quickly settled into our amazing team here at The Allan Practice, Calcot Medical Centre. Welcome, Chanel!

### **Get to Know Chanel!**

#### **What inspired you to become a Physician Associate, and what did your training involve?**



**CHANEL OFORI**  
**PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE**

I have always been intrigued by biology and human anatomy. I chose my career as a physician associate due to the flexibility and freedom I have to explore different specialties of medicine. I was interested in working in general practice as I love working with patients of all ages and backgrounds with various presenting conditions and the ability to provide care and follow up with individuals.

My training involved studying a 2-year intensive course in a master's in Physician Associate Studies at St. George's University after completing my bachelor's degree in biomedical science. It involved learning how to take medical histories, perform physical examinations, request and analyse investigations, diagnose illnesses, and develop treatment and management plans for patients.

## **MORE ABOUT CHANEL**

### **Can you describe a typical day in your role at our practice?**

A typical day in the practice includes me having a morning and afternoon clinic. My patient list consists mainly of face to face of which most are booked on the day and present with various clinical presentations. I would take histories, examine and manage patient issues; this can include suggesting treatment, referring patients to clinics or other healthcare professionals. After each clinic, patients are discussed with a supervising doctor.

### **How do you collaborate with GPs to ensure the best outcomes for patients ?**

After each clinic, I am given allocated time to debrief about patients seen on the day with a supervising doctor. This enables me to discuss any concerns or queries about patients seen as well as get prescriptions signed off and see if anything else needs to be added or implemented to support patient care.

### **What do you find most rewarding about working as a PA in primary care?**

Making a difference to someone's health and condition and being able to see their ailments improve or get better. Also getting familiar with patients to build rapport and trust.

### **What are some common misconceptions patients have about Physician Associates?**

(That) 1. I am a doctor 2. I am a trainee medical professional 3. I am not qualified medical professional

### **How do you handle situations when you need to refer a patient to a specialist?**

I would always discuss patients with my supervising GP about whether a proposed referral is deemed suitable and how to approach it. I would then refer to an online portal and write up a clinical referral letter as needed.

## SOCIAL MEDIA LAUNCH!!

WE ARE NOW ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM!



Like and Follow us on Facebook



Instagram



MAY 2024

# 763

GP FACE TO FACE APPOINTMENTS OFFERED

MAY 2024

# 2033

TOTAL FACE TO FACE APPOINTMENTS OFFERED

MAY 2024

# 523

GP TELEPHONE APPOINTMENTS OFFERED

MAY 2024

# 742

TOTAL TELEPHONE APPOINTMENTS OFFERED

Get the NHS App to book appointments, order repeat prescriptions and message your doctor!

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WITH YOUR DOCTOR'S SECRETARY

# LOVE IT!

Podcast we love this month!

ZOE Science and Nutrition