

OSTEOPOROSIS REPORT 2009

from Dr. Karen Wilson

Another year has gone by and Dr Peshin has been making lots of changes in the Rheumatology Clinic. The most important new development is the Fracture Liaison Service. This plans to identify everyone who has a fragility fracture. Elaine Hayes, the Falls coordinator is then going to contact the patient and decide if they need a DEXA scan and if they need to start treatment. It is hoped that this will further increase our pick up rate and help stop further fractures. This system will hopefully be in action before the end of the year.

Another change has been the removal of the recall system. Many of you will be aware that we are no longer calling you back for rescans. You need to check on your last DEXA what recall was planned and then ask your GP to refer you when it is due. If you have just had a scan ask your GP to do the repeat referral now and it will go on a diary system in X-ray.

Many of you met Dr Peshin at his talk in the summer. We had a packed hall at Keyll Darree, which is always satisfying for a speaker. I hope his enthusiasm was infectious.

Dr Peshin, myself, Elaine and Val from the X-ray department went to Manchester in the summer for the National Osteoporosis Society Conference. This was a great opportunity to meet other specialists in Osteoporosis and to hear all the latest research. There is a new class of drug being developed which will give us more options for treatment. None are on the market yet, but perhaps by next Christmas.

I hope you are all well and looking forward to the festive season. As always I would like to thank the committee for all their help over the year and for your continuing support.

