

*Dear VMC and LPMC patients,*

Newsletter readers will be aware that patients automatically belong to the VMC Patient Participation Group and all are welcome to attend PPG events in the VMC Group Room.

In this newsletter you will be able to read about all the life-saving vaccinations that are available for free on the NHS. I thought that all my vaccinations were up to date but when I asked reception to check on my patient record I found that I had never had the RSV vaccination to protect me from this dangerous respiratory virus that causes a low, persistent cough.

Vaccinations save lives and so do screening tests. Cancer can remain undetected for years, stealthily spreading around your body so that when symptoms finally present themselves it can be too late for effective life-saving treatment. Simple screening tests can detect deadly diseases early on giving you a much better chance of survival. It is always better to know rather than hoping for the best.

VMC can no longer send text/SMS messages to patients with a link to the newsletter or other alerts. You will, however, be able to access information about the practice and PPG events if you put the updated NHS App on your mobile phone and **allow notifications**.

With best wishes, *Mary Orr, Chairman, Victoria Medical Centre Patient Participation Group*

**BEKIM HASANI**  
**The Practice**  
**NHS APP Champion**

In the last Patient Survey many patients said that they would like to be able to access on-line services such as prescriptions, appointments and their test results. The NHS App that we can access from our mobile phones has recently been updated. The App is easy to use and enables you to order repeat prescriptions, book GP and hospital appointments, view your health records including blood tests and X-rays as soon as they are available – and a lot more. If you would like help in setting up the App you need to contact Bekim Hasani, VMC's Champion of the NHS App. Bekim is a man on a mission. I urge you to book an appointment with him. He will help you set up the App on your mobile phone and show you now to use it.

Anyone who for whatever reason would prefer not to use the new App may continue as before.



**WEIGHT  
MANAGEMENT**  
from children's diets,  
to healthy eating and  
weight-loss jobs

We will soon be holding a PPG event on weight management with experts willing to provide sensible and safe answers to your questions.

**WATCH THIS SPACE**

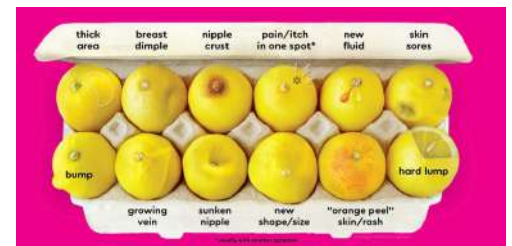
# SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

Victoria Medical Centre and Lees Place Medical Centre have managed to meet all the practice targets over and above NHS expectations, being the highest achieving practice in Westminster.

- ★ ★ **89%** of our patients over the age of 65 have had the annual flu vaccination, and 85% of those who are considered 'at risk' and therefore eligible have had their vaccinations as well.
- ★ ★ **98%** of eligible children have had their Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccination, which is so important with the current rise in Measles cases – especially in London.
- ★ ★ **70%** of patients in the practice have signed up to the NHS App – can we make it over **90%** this year with **BEKIM'S** help?
- ★ ★ **93%** of all calls into the practice are answered within 10 minutes and most are answered within the average time of 4 minutes.
- ★ ★ 2,585 of patients 40 and over have had health checks – **100%** of the NHS target.  
**100%** of patients with Learning Disabilities registered with the surgery have completed their annual health check.

## HOWEVER – Breast Screening

Women aged 54 to 74 who have had breast screening in the last 3 years – only 946 patients, which is just 45% across three years. Breast screening is easy and quick and very good at detecting diseases that can otherwise be felt as lumps. If you have not had an invitation for breast screening and you are female between the age of 50 and 70 please book an appointment on: <https://www.london-breastscreening.org.uk/home.aspx#gsc.tab=0> or contact one of the nurses. Although mildly uncomfortable it only lasts 5 minutes and could save your life, and it is FREE. Even if you are over 70 you can book an appointment, you will not be sent an invitation but you are eligible for a test. Go on...just do it!



**PSSST...!**  
**THE MENOPAUSE CAFÉ**  
**IS BACK**

**Wednesday 27th May 2026 6-7:30pm**  
**Victoria Medical Centre, The Group Room**

<b>WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MENOPAUSE?</b> COME AND JOIN US TO DISCUSS SYMPTOMS, TIPS, AND WORRIES IN A SAFE, CONFIDENTIAL, INSPIRING PLACE.	<b>WELCOME TO EVERYONE!</b> CHAT AND SHARE INFORMATION OVER COFFEE AND BISCUITS!
<b>LEAD BY: DR SUSAN RANKINE DR EMILY AULD NIGEL DENBY</b>	



Hello there,  
I am Dr Victoria Taylor. Having trained at VMC as a GP registrar, I joined the practice permanently as a salaried GP in October 2025. I am very excited to be officially part of the VMC team, a practice that strives to deliver excellent care to patients from different communities.

I grew up in central London and graduated from St George's University. In addition to my clinical work I have developed a passion for education and academia, leading me to undertake specialist roles as both a teaching fellow and a research fellow. During this time, I obtained a PGCert in Medical Education, a qualification I look forward to putting into practice as we welcome medical students to VMC in the near future.

Having already had the opportunity to meet many of you through my time in VMC as a registrar, I look forward to providing ongoing continuity of care as I get to know even more of you.

Best wishes, Victoria Taylor