Patient Safety: Rachel

Seasonal Flu Update: Just a reminder for patients that we are in the season of flu vaccines, our 1st Saturday clinic will be on September 26th and our 2nd will be October 11th. Four-year-olds in England are to be offered free flu vaccinations for the first time as part of the annual drive to get people protected before winter. Public Health England wants widespread vaccination to stop flu spreading to "at risk" people. These include pregnant women, young children, over 65s and those with conditions such as asthma and diabetes. Last winter 904 people were admitted to intensive care with flu and 98 of them died. Also in the Cumbria area we are in a pilot and will be also vaccinating anyone up to the age of 11 years.

England Health: A survey produced by Public Health England has revealed that one in 10 three-year-old children have tooth decay. Toddlers had an average of three teeth that were decayed, missing or filled research found. Advice from health England says that thorough brushing usually morning and bed time will help to prevent tooth decay. Healthy teeth and gums are essential to happy children.

NICE Updates: NICE has approved two tests for heart attacks, which could help reduce length of hospital stay and lead to earlier treatment. Latest diagnostics guidance says tests can be used by the NHS to rule out heart attacks in people who present to hospitals with chest pain and suspected acute coronary syndrome. Around 700,000 people are admitted to emergency departments with acute coronary syndrome each year, usually with symptoms of chest pain. The increased sensitivity of these tests could mean a reduced length of stay for people without raised concerned levels for further treatment.