

Suggestions for PRG activities

- Design and put up a display or noticeboard in the practice waiting room
- Get publicity in your community – use local media, free magazines, press, radio or TV.
- Spread messages to your virtual group using email, text and social media – send out the practice newsletter to PRG members
- Go out to community events and visit local groups including schools, libraries, luncheon clubs, residential homes, community centres, pubs and shops to spread the word.
- Target different health and interest groups in your practice. Help them understand what your group can do for them and how they can get involved or give their feedback. Provide information in different languages and formats where appropriate.
- Hold a full staff/practice meeting with the PRG.
- Put something on the practice website and in your practice/PRG newsletter. Help to set up/write the practice newsletter or design a logo for the PRG.
- Interview some key local people and promote the PRG.
- Get involved in GP/practice staff training activities.
- Hold a coffee morning, open day or fun event and invite people to attend.
- Invite speakers, from local charities or Healthwatch Kirklees for example, to attend PRG meetings or events.
- Invite services to come into the practice that may benefit patients and hold a stall or run some sessions. Topics could include welfare rights, citizens' advice, food-banks or childcare providers.
- Invite all new patients at registration to join the PRG. Set up a process and implement it via reception or online.
- Members of PRG to hand out leaflets about the PRG at baby clinics, or work your way down the flu jab clinic waiting line for example.
- Staff / PRG members could 'survey' patients in the waiting room and ask for feedback. From these results create a 'You Said: We Did' practice improvements section on a waiting room notice board.
- Having trouble getting younger people involved? Embrace technology by setting up a Facebook page or virtual email database group for the practice. Why not go into local schools and chat to students interested in healthcare as a career – would they like to join the PRG for some work experience?
- Set small targets for your fundraising. Sell handmade cards stall for patients to buy using an honesty box. PRG members and staff could do healthy challenges and get sponsored, the fastest rowing machine mile for example, to raise money for charity.
- Use the skills of health trainers by holding healthy exercise/eating advice sessions in the practice and get PRG members to send invites out to patients about the event.
- Use the skills of local people who speak a community language to promote the practice by word of mouth to their community. They could also communicate messages about not going to A&E unless it's an emergency for example.