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Generous donation to boost cancer diagnosis

Hartismere Hospital League of Friends has generously donated a state-of-the-art dermatoscope to Debenham Surgery to improve diagnosis for patients with suspected skin cancer.

The DermLite DL5 will allow GPs at the practice, which is run by Suffolk Primary Care, to look under the surface of the skin to help tell the difference between benign and suspicious lesions. This will make sure that only those which need urgent attention are referred onto hospital.

Dr Ahmed Moawad, a GP at Debenham with a special interest in dermatology, said: “We are genuinely grateful for this generous contribution from the Friends of Hartismere and for their support in improving patient care in our community.

“As GPs, we see a wide range of skin problems every day. Many lesions are clearly benign, but others fall into that grey zone where naked-eye examination alone simply isn’t enough. Dermoscopy lets us visualise structures beneath the surface of the skin, improving our ability to differentiate benign from suspicious lesions and reducing unnecessary referrals.

“The new dermatoscope is an upgrade from the current device we have at Debenham and is equipped with more features and visibility which will give us better diagnostic accuracy, particularly for pigmented lesions where early melanoma detection is critical. For our patients, this means more accurate assessment, fewer unnecessary referrals, earlier identification of lesions that genuinely require urgent attention and better continuity of care.

“This donation will not only empower us to provide safer and more informed dermatological care, but also enhance the quality of care we can offer to our patients.”

Pauline Diamond, Chair of the Hartismere Hospital League of Friends, said: “Our charity raises funds to supply equipment for patients attending the clinics at Hartismere Hospital in Eye. One of our aims is also to reach out to help people in the wider community, and we thought the best way to do this was to purchase something for each of the GP surgeries.

“This valuable piece of equipment is able to analyse and detect skin cancers early, therefore speeding up diagnosis, treatment and recovery.

“It was good to meet up with the Debenham doctors recently and be given a demonstration of how the dermatoscope will be used to benefit patients in the future.”

Ends



Pauline Diamond (Chair of The Friends of Hartismere), with Dr Ahmed Moawad, Dr Luke Morgan and Dr Lena Farruggio of Debenham Surgery.

Suffolk Primary Care is an innovative partnership of GP surgeries in Suffolk which together care for around 70,000 patients. Its doctors and practice staff share resources and work together to ensure patients can receive high quality healthcare.

More information is available at <https://suffolkprimarycare.uk>