

Template letter for GPs or Practice Managers

(Insert Date)

Listen To Our Lungs

Raising awareness of the devastating lung disease pulmonary fibrosis with GPs and health care professionals

Hello,

We are contacting you as members of the (insert support group name) to highlight Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Month this September.

As patients and families supporting each other to cope with this devastating lung disease we would like to work with you and your colleagues to improve awareness of the disease.

We understand that it is notoriously difficult to recognise the signs of pulmonary fibrosis - a recent patient survey by the charity Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis revealed that more than one third of patients are misdiagnosed and over a half still not diagnosed within six months of visiting their GP with symptoms.

If you feel that staff at your surgery would benefit from a greater knowledge of a disease which affects 70,000 people in the UK and kills 6,000 a year - more than half within three to five years of diagnosis - we can help.

If you would like to ***Listen To Our Lungs*** we can arrange for some of our members to visit your surgery. PF patients are often called into training sessions for trainee hospital doctors and this can be very useful in recognising the sights and sounds of the disease.

You can download the APF Patient Survey Report here:

<https://www.actionpulmonaryfibrosis.org/2019/hiddenkiller/>

And there is more information about the key signs of pulmonary fibrosis here:

<https://www.actionpulmonaryfibrosis.org/listen-for-the-sounds-of-ipf/>

We look forward to hearing from you and to working with you to improve outcomes for pulmonary fibrosis patients in our community

Yours sincerely,