

FLU 2020

Well, we thought that the delivery of the flu vaccination programme had been tricky over the last couple of years because of issues with the delays in the delivery of the vaccines being later than we had been advised and needing to change flu clinic dates. However, this year has been even trickier!

The introduction of Covid-19 and the need for social distancing, the addition of those aged 50-64 into the eligible cohorts and the issues with delivery of the vaccine has made this year even more difficult. On top of this, we also had some issues with the delivery of some of your flu invite letters, with them arriving after the appointment date, due to postal problems.

Having held a couple of Saturday clinics, some specifically for the 'shielding patients' and some for children, we are pleased at how they went. We would like to thank all of you who have been for following the social distancing guidelines, following instructions, keeping to the appointment times and having a smile on your faces as this helps things run smoothly.

There are two different vaccines that we use for those in the over 65 age range and those in the under 65s, but at risk groups. We are having a slight problem with getting deliveries of the vaccine for those in the under 65s group. We have also noticed that there has been a greater uptake compared with recent years from those in the 'at risk' groups and on which we decide on how many to order. This means that we will not be able to complete the vaccination programme as quickly as we had hoped, as we are waiting for a further delivery. When we do receive the vaccines we will send a message to all the patients who are entitled, but have not had the vaccination yet.

50-64 year olds

The Government announced that patients in this age range will be included in this year's group of patients eligible for a free flu vaccination. However, this group will not be vaccinated until after the usual groups have had their vaccination and if there are vaccines available. We are not sure that there will be sufficient vaccines, because when the vaccine manufacture started, it was back at the start of the year and before Covid, so it is unlikely that the companies will have planned to include this group, which is over 11 million people. We will try to get as many vaccines as we can and will be letting everyone in this age range know when and how we will deliver this, but it is not likely to be until December.

Thank you.

**HELP US
HELP YOU**

STAY WELL THIS WINTER

Partners

Dr S Stier
Dr H Antscherl
Dr H Shakir
Dr M Nicholas
Dr A Kamal
Dr F Sunassee

Associates

Dr T Fernandes
Dr D Franzmann
Dr S DaSilva
Dr T Darku
Dr J Bilaney
Dr A Gohar
Dr N Zourob
Dr S Soltanieh
Dr T Kasagra
Dr S Chopra

Registrars

Dr B Awujoola

Pharmacist

Miss Radhika Lakhani

Practice Nurses

Clare Jones
Kerry Farmer (maternity)

Charlie Rooney

Ann Timms

Louise Hibberd

Karen Dancer, HCA

Practice Manager

Mr C Neal

Asst Practice Manager

Miss K Day

Deputy Managers

Miss S Wartnaby

Mrs S Conway

THE NHS CORONAVIRUS VACCINE RESEARCH REGISTRY

Are you over 18? Do you want to help scientists find a vaccine against coronavirus?

You can sign up with a few details to give permission for researchers to contact you about potential vaccine studies for coronavirus. You are not signing up to take part in a specific trial but letting researchers know you are happy for them to contact you to see if you are suitable. If you are eligible, you can then decide if you want to take part or not. Any information you provide will be kept completely confidential within the NHS system.

Scientists are working on potential vaccines for coronavirus. Researchers are currently conducting trials to identify effective vaccines and ensure they are safe before being made available to the UK public. Researchers are looking for people of all backgrounds with or without existing health conditions for the vaccines research registry. By signing up, you are saving time for researchers to look for volunteers.

If you are interested, please follow the link: www.nhs.uk/researchcontact

Parkwood surgery are not directly involved in this research so if you have any questions, please email: bepartofresearch@nhr.ac.uk



Surgery Development

As most of you are aware planning permission was agreed earlier this year for the development of a larger practice and a full refurbishment of the current site.

We are expecting work to start in November and will be ongoing for just over 12 months providing there are no delays as a result of Covid-19.

During development there will be quite a bit of disruption, noise and changes to how we will deliver services. Meetings are planned for later this month to work out the various phases of the development and what impact that will have on patients and staff. There will be an impact on parking around the Surgery, so would ask as many as possible to walk to appointments or park a little further away. We do understand that with the current restriction of not allowing patients into the Surgery until their appointment time, this is difficult and we will be reviewing how we manage this and will ensure we keep you advised via the website and signage at the Surgery.

We think that the development will be good for our patients, staff and the local health community, but fully understand that for these groups and our neighbours there will be a lot of noise and disruption

Current situation at the surgery

Covid-19 has been with us for over six months and we have to change what services we can offer and how we deliver them quite a few times during this.

We have continued with face to face appointments through the whole of this period, but on a reduced level. In order to try to reduce the risk of spreading the virus we will continue to try to deal with as many situations as we can remotely, either on the phone or by video call, but if it is felt that you need to be seen, you will be given an appointment.

If you do have an appointment, we ask that you arrive as close to time as possible, use the intercom by the front door to let the Receptionist know you are here. If you are seeing a Doctor, you will then be asked to wait outside and when the Doctor is ready to see you they will call you so you can let the Receptionist know the GP has called. They will then let you in, ask that you wear a mask, use the hand sanitiser and let you know which room to go to. Because of the different nature of appointments for Nurses, these are handled slightly differently and will be asked to go to the Nurses room upon arrival.

Please can we ask that if you do have any medical conditions that cause you concern, that you contact us and do not think that because of Covid-19 you should not, as it is important to detect things as early as possible.

**We will always be
there for you**
Coronavirus or not.

CORONAVIRUS
STAY HOME. PROTECT
THE NHS. SAVE LIVES.