

## Flu 2020: The Coldharbour Hill Flu Plan



### Flu 2020: Frequently Asked Questions

#### **When are the flu appointments available to be booked into?**

Coldharbour Hill PMS shall start to open up appointments for booking into a flu vaccine clinic from **7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 onwards.**

#### **When do the flu clinics start?**

The pre-booked clinics will be scheduled to start on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> on all Tuesdays in September with Saturday clinics on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 3<sup>rd</sup> October and 7<sup>th</sup> November subject to any vaccine delivery delays.

#### **Who should get the flu vaccine?**

This year the flu vaccine is being offered on the NHS to:

- adults 65 and over (including anyone who will be 65 by the 31st March 2021)
- people with certain medical conditions (including children in at-risk groups from 6 months of age)
- pregnant women
- Carers
- children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2020
- children in primary school (n.b. these vaccines are available via the school ONLY)
- children in year 7 (secondary school) (n.b. these vaccines are available via the school ONLY)
- frontline health or social care workers

#### **Attending Clinics :**

- Please bring this letter with you – coming without it could delay your vaccination.
- Attend on your own unless you need help in mobilising.
- There will be no car parking facilities as the car park will be used for queuing.
- Do not arrive early or late for your appointment time, we have allocated a strict number of patients per period to ensure that people are queuing for the minimum of time and social distancing is maintained.
- Please wear a face covering. If you are exempt from wearing a mask, please be prepared to provide evidence of this.
- Please follow the instructions for queuing. The queue will be controlled to ensure social distancing. If you are in a wheelchair or have very limited mobility, please make yourself known to a member of the team.
- Please come prepared for the weather as queuing will be outside.
- Wear clothing which makes it easy to expose your upper arm.
- There will be no chairs available to sit while waiting and if possible we ask you to avoid sitting whilst having the vaccination (for infection control). If you think you will struggle with this, please speak to a member of the team.
- Do not attend if you or any members of your household have symptoms of coronavirus or if you have been told to isolate. Contact us the following week and we will rebook you when you are able to leave isolation.

If you are unable to attend the appointment time on the day please call us asap so we can reallocate you an appointment. This may mean we cannot vaccinate you until later in the season.

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### **I am aged 50-64, am I also now eligible?**

Later in the year, the flu vaccine is expected to be able to be given to people aged 50 to 64.

More information will be available to the 50-64 'newly eligible' patients later in the autumn and until then, the appointments are only being opened up to be booked by those patients who were already eligible. We have to prioritise vaccine stock for the most vulnerable patients first.

- If you're aged 50 to 64 but also in another at-risk group, you should book for your flu vaccine and not wait (bookings start from 7th September).
- If you're aged 50 to 64 and were not already in an at risk group, please ensure the practice has a correct mobile number for you, as details will be sent by text about the availability of additional vaccines later in the season.

### **I am almost 65, am I eligible now?**

Yes. As with previous years, anyone who will be 65 years old by the 31st March 2021 will be entitled to receive a flu vaccine from the 65+ supply even before they physically turn 65.

### **Can I have my flu vaccine when I am coming up the surgery for another medical reason?**

Yes, but only if you have an appointment and only if time allows on the day. See below:

**If an eligible patient is already coming to the surgery for a face to face appointment with a GP, Nurse or HCA (not children) a flu vaccine can potentially be given if time allows on the day.**

**This will only apply to appointments after the following dates:**

- **From 14<sup>th</sup> September onwards for the over 65s**
- **From 21<sup>st</sup> September onwards for the under 65s.**