

# Queens Avenue Surgery

## Flu Clinic Plan 2020 during Covid-19

### Information for patients

We would like to give our patients some prior information regarding the likely delivery of our flu clinics in the Autumn. Due to Covid-19 and the uncertainty about a 2<sup>nd</sup> wave, this year will be the most challenging flu season that general practice has had to manage.

In addition to planning the delivery of flu vaccinations to our patients, we are seeing a steep increase in our day-to-day work and are dealing with the backlog of work that was suspended during the crisis period. So please bear with us at this difficult time.

#### THE PLAN

We plan to use the Thomas Hardye School sports hall which is close to the surgery premises and will give us the space we need to maintain social distancing and the safety of our staff and patients. Parking and entry will be on the Coburg Road side.

What to expect:

- **Invites will be sent via text, email or letter during September and October. Patients aged 50-65 not in an at risk group will be invited at a later date (November/December) and only if there is sufficient vaccine.**
- You will be given a date and time period to attend or asked to book a time slot with full instructions giving the location, parking etc.
- You may be required to bring proof of your appointment on your phone or a printout.
- You **must wear a face covering** and loose clothing (**ideally short sleeves**) that will make it easy to show your arm for vaccination.
- You must **turn up as close to your allocated time** as possible to help us maintain the flow of patients and social distancing.
- Please **attend alone** unless you are a couple both receiving a vaccination or you need the assistance of a carer.
- Parking - marshalls will help you with parking but **we advise you to walk if possible** as traffic may be heavy and you may experience difficulty parking. Please park appropriately as this is a residential area.
- There will be notices and volunteers to guide you and reminders to keep 2m apart at all times.
- Screening – your temperature will be taken and you will be asked to return home and obtain a test if your temperature indicates a fever.
- Check-in – you will be asked to provide your details (this may be via your phone or letter)
- You will be guided to a vaccine station or instructed to join a queue but we hope with allocated time slots your wait time will be minimal. Turning up on time will really help us with this.
- The nurse or doctor vaccinating you will expect you to be ready – please be aware that there will be **no privacy**.

- Please let us know on arrival if you have mobility issues as we will have additional staff to vaccinate you separately.
- The doctor or nurse will be wearing PPE.
- You will be guided to the exit after your vaccination and we ask that you **leave promptly** for reasons of safety and to allow other patients to park.

There is no requirement to wait if you have had the flu vaccination before but we will have an emergency area for anyone who feels unwell.

**DO NOT** attend the clinic if you are unwell or develop symptoms of Covid-19.

## ELIGIBILITY

Priority will be given to patients who were shielding or highly vulnerable during the pandemic along with patients in the at risk groups. Eligibility for the vaccine has been extended to patients aged 50-65 but if you do not qualify in one of the at risk groups, vaccination will be offered to you after the at risk patients have been vaccinated and only if there is sufficient vaccine.

The eligible groups are:

- those aged 6 months to under 65 years in clinical risk groups
- those aged 65 years and over
- pregnant women
- those in long-stay residential care homes
- carers
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals
- health and social care staff employed by a registered residential care/nursing home, registered domiciliary care provider or a voluntary managed hospice provider
- all healthcare workers
- those aged 50 – 65 years not in an at risk group
- all children aged 2 to 10 (but not 11 years or older) on 31 August 2020

Children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2020 will be vaccinated by practices, all others will be as part of the school programme. Children will attend a separate clinic.

Patients who were shielding during Covid-19 may be seen first in clinic or at separate clinics and consideration is being given to drive-thru vaccines. Further information to follow.

This information is a guide only as we are still in the planning stages. If you are eligible for a flu vaccination we will send invites and full details later in August for clinics in September and October.

Keep checking our website which will be updated with further information and more details.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.