

# Newsletter

## Penkrige Medical Practice

Issue 5  
Summer 2020

### Opening Times

Mon 8.00-18.30  
Tues 8.00-18.30  
Wed 8.00-18.30  
Thurs 8.00-12.00  
14.00-18.30  
Fri 8.00-18.30

### Extended Hours

For appointments  
booked in advance  
dealing with  
non-urgent  
matters

Thurs 18.30-20.00  
(weekly)

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## Keeping in Touch with our patients

### SPECIAL FLU EDITION

We wanted to give you early notice on how we will be running our flu vaccination campaign this year. We know there has been information in the news recently stating that there is an additional cohort of people who will be eligible for a flu vaccine this year, ie those aged 50—64 and those who have been shielding or living with someone shielding.

It is possible that the Practice will be giving the vaccines for this extra cohort as well as our normal cohort of patients, but this hasn't been agreed yet.

We want to make it clear that the vaccines for this additional cohort of patients are being distributed by NHS England, rather than our normal supplier and are in addition to the vaccines we have already ordered. We understand these vaccines may be available after our other vaccines have been delivered, so it is likely the new cohort of patients will receive their invitation at a later date. Please don't phone the Practice regarding this additional cohort at the moment, we don't have the vaccines or the appointments to offer you. We will advertise and invite you when we have.

Due to social distancing measures we will need to run our flu clinics differently this year. Appointments will be mainly at weekends, as we will not be easily able to run flu sessions whilst we have other surgeries taking place.

We will start the flu clinics earlier this year (dates are on page 2). We have to set up our flu clinic dates to coincide with the times we will receive our flu vaccine deliveries. These arrive in batches and our first batches are the vaccines we have to give to patients over 65 years. Therefore our first clinic will only be for this cohort of patients. Our vaccines for under 65's with eligible conditions don't start arriving until mid October and so we will offer appointment to these patients on Saturday 17 October.

During the flu clinic we will still only allow 5 patients in the waiting area, so we would ask patients not to arrive too early for their appointment—you may be asked to queue outside or wait in your car.

Once you have booked your appointment we will send you a form which you will need to complete and bring to your appointment.

# Newsletter

## Penkridge Medical Practice

### Opening Times

Mon 8.00-

18.30

Tuesday Thursday we

are closed for staff

Wednes 8.00-

14.00

Thurs 8.00-

12.00

Once a month the

local Clinical

Commissioning

Group provide GP

cover so that

patients can attend

For updates and

appointments

booked in

advance the

Practice will be

closed and you will

be asked to call

111 if you need

urgent medical

assistance.

(weekly)

Future Training

dates for 2020 are

Thurs 3 Sept

Thurs 1 Oct

Thurs 5 Nov

Thurs 3 Dec

These sessions are

1200-1830

### Keeping in Touch with our patients

Doing this in advance will mean we can quicken the rate at which we give the vaccination. It will be a bit like a conveyor belt, you will not sit down in the waiting area or in the consulting room, but it is important patients are not at the surgery long and we keep the flow of patients moving. Please be aware no other services will be available at this time, so please do not ask clinicians or non-clinical staff about any other issues.

There will be a one way system operating through the building, so patients will enter through the main entrance but leave through another exit.

Patients need to wear loose clothing so they can easily expose their upper arm up to their shoulder. There will not be time for removing layers of clothing prior to the vaccination.

Staff will be reminding patients of this whilst they queue. Temperatures will be taken prior to entering the building and if any patients have cold symptoms they should not attend as the vaccination cannot be given and they will be asked to return home and contact the Practice at a later date to rebook.

We will start to send invitation messages to patients from mid August and we will start with the over 65 group as their appointments will be available first. As usual the appointments will be available to book online and we would encourage patients to do this to ease pressure from our phone lines. Appointments for those under 65 with eligible conditions will also be available to book online.

For patients in the new cohort we would ask that you do not book appointments until you are sent an invitation. We will monitor the appointments booked and if slots have been booked incorrectly you may receive a message to say the appointment has been cancelled.

If you attend an appointment at the surgery for another reason, eg a blood test, we will still be giving vaccines opportunistically so you may be offered the vaccine at this time.

We ask that our patients work with us to try and make this new system operate as smoothly as possible. Thank you

#### Clinic Dates

Saturday 19 September—65+ only

Friday 25 September—65+ only

Saturday 10 October—65+ only

Saturday 17 October—65+ only (morning) under 65s (afternoon)