

Newsletter

Penkridge Medical Practice

Issue 6
Summer 2021

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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FLU VACCINATIONS AND COVID BOOSTERS

Covid Boosters

Based on the successful rollout of the Covid Vaccinations at the County Showground, GP Practices in the Stafford area will be following a similar format for delivering the Covid Booster. The venue will be different (it is likely to be the Kingston Centre), but the format will be similar and we will contact you about booking this appointment when they become available. At the moment Covid Boosters will be offered to those aged 50 years and over and those aged 16—49 with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality.

The order in which we will need to call these patients is very specific, so please wait to be contacted.

Flu Vaccinations

For 2021 General Practice will be offering flu vaccinations to patients aged 50 years and over and those aged 49 and under who have underlying health conditions. Practices in the Stafford area, including Penkridge, will be administering these at the Practice and we want to get all our patients vaccinated as soon as we can. With this in mind we are starting our flu clinics slightly earlier this year.

We felt that the format for the clinics ran well last year and so we will be running a similar format this year. Appointments will be mainly at weekends and during our Thursday extended hours opening, as we will not be easily able to run flu sessions whilst we have other surgeries taking place.

During the flu clinic we will have a limited number of 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.

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.

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Opening Times

Mon 8.00-

18.30

Tuesday Thursday we

are closed for staff

Wednes 8.00-

18.00

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

training. During

booked in

this time the

Practice will be

closed and you will

be advised to call

111 if you need

urgent medical

assistance.

(weekly)

Future Training

dates for 2021 are

Thurs 2 Sept

Thurs 7 Oct

Thurs 4 Nov

Thurs 2 Dec

These sessions are

1200-1830

Keeping in Touch with our patients

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. 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.

To try and ensure that our telephone lines are not blocked with patients wishing to book flu vaccination appointments, this year we will text appointments to patients, or phone them if we do not have mobile numbers, as we did for booking the Covid Vaccinations.

We will start with our older and more vulnerable group first. The appointments will still be available to book online and if you have access to this system we would encourage you to book this way. If you do book online please make sure you book the correct slot for the type of flu vaccine you will require. These are clearly labelled.

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 make this system operate as smoothly as possible. Thank you

Clinic Dates

Thursday 16 September—65+ only

Saturday 18 September—65+ only

Thursday 23 September—65+ only

Saturday 25 September—65+ only (morning) under 65s only (afternoon)

Thursday 30 September—under 65s only

Saturday 23 October—under 65s only (morning)