The Calverton Surgery Newsletter – Sep 2023 **Flu Jabs and Missing Patients**

At the time of writing this month’s newsletter it is hard to contemplate (despite a rather soggy Summer so far) that Autumn is approaching. However it is and that means the surgery is busy preparing for our flu jab campaign starting this month. Our dates planned are 23rd and 30th September plus 7th and 14th October, appointments are now available to book and are filling up fast. News on the Autumn Covid 19 vaccine booster campaign are still emerging but at present we are not expecting to be doing this at the surgery. To check whether you are eligible please refer to:-

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jcvi-advises-on-eligible-groups-for-2023-autumn-booster>

for the flu jab its <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-flu-immunisation-programme-plan/national-flu-immunisation-programme-2023-to-2024-letter#cohort-eligibility>

Next, PSA testing has been in the news again recently. At present screening is not available as a national policy but we are approached by some male patients seeking a test. It is worth considering that prostate cancer is common (particularly in older men), some groups are at increased risk (Afro-Caribbean heritage; family history in 1st or 2nd degree relatives under 60 or more than 1 relative, and genetically there can be an inherited risk e.g., BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes). In deciding whether you might want a test there are pros and cons & much more information is at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/prostate-cancer/should-i-have-psa-test/>

Also, the results of the National GP Patient Survey are out. I am delighted to report that we have scored well compared with national and local baseline scores. 93% of you found our receptionists helpful (nationally its 82%) and 97% of you reported having confidence and trust in the healthcare professional you spoke to or saw most recently. At a time of severe NHS pressure, I think it is a credit to our practice teams and testament to their hard work and dedication that we can maintain such levels of service. I know from the many kind words and letters we receive that it is noted and appreciated.

Plus, I am aware some readers of this newsletter may not have seen our August edition, this is still available via <https://www.calvertonpractice.co.uk/2023/07/17/the-calverton-practice-newsletter-august-2023/>

Finally, this month we say fond farewell to Gemma Smith leaving our admin team for pastures new but welcome 2 new doctors, Chris Powell and James Owen who are with us on rotation from the Nottingham GP Specialty Training Programme. Also, is there someone in your house not yet registered at the surgery? Please encourage them to get registered ASAP, its our practice list size that generates resources. We need you! Phil Rayner