

## **Alconbury and Brampton Surgeries Update 19.07.21**

**Covid Guidance Changes** From July 19<sup>th</sup> the Government is no longer making it mandatory for the public to wear face masks or social distance. However, guidance for healthcare settings remains unchanged. As a Practice we have a responsibility to protect our team and our patients from being at increased risk from covid. To ensure we remain well and able to provide a GP service to those most vulnerable patients in need we ask that you respect our request to continue to wear a face mask on the premises if invited to see a clinician for an appointment in person. We will continue to offer a range of appointments in order to best meet the patients' needs.

**General Practice Data for Planning and Research (GDPR)** From September 2021 all GP surgeries, will legally have to allow sharing of patient identifiable data with NHS digital for health and social care planning and research purposes. We are **not** allowed by law to refuse to share the information. NHS Digital will also collect information from other healthcare providers, and will be able to publish and share this data. NHS Digital hope to use this data to help NHS planning of local services and to share with research organisations. You can find out more about how and why NHS Digital want to use your data here: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/general-practice-data-for-planning-and-research#additional-information-for-patients-and-the-public> As a patient you can decide whether or not you wish your data to be shared, and you can tell us not to share your data with NHS Digital. It is important that you understand that there are TWO types of opt out. More information is available via the Practice website.

**Team Update** We have lost a few members of our valued team to retirement in recent months and we would like to take this opportunity to thank Sister Caroline, HCA Lynn and Receptionist Sue at Brampton for their commitment to the Practice and our patients over their many years of service. As the Practice continues to grow we are working to ensure we enhance our Practice team to fill these vacancies and meet the additional patient's needs. We have recently been joined by a new Nurse Marie and a new receptionist at Alconbury Alison. We have another Nurse joining us in September and we are working with our admin team to ensure the clinical team are adequately supported in caring for our patients.

**Covid Vaccination Clinics** As we come to the end of our part in the National Vaccination programme we would like to express our sincere thanks to the residents of Alconbury & Alconbury Weston for being so accommodating of the additional footfall on clinic days, but also for the part so many within the community played in helping make the programme such a success. As a Hub we will have delivered in excess of 25000 vaccinations from Alconbury to patients living in the local area and we are proud of the part we have played in making the service accessible for our patients.

Melanie Gearing - Practice Manager