

Autumn Newsletter 2018

2018 Flu Vaccinations

Flu Vaccination Service – how will new changes affect you? Flu is a nasty virus which can cause unpleasant symptoms and can lead to complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia which is why it's important to take up the offer of a flu vaccine.



Every year, the strains of flu are monitored and the likely evolution of the disease is mapped to help ensure the annual vaccine targets the most common flu strains.

This year, the national programme includes 2 different types of vaccine:

- 1. A vaccine for the over 65's which is an adjuvanted trivalent flu vaccine (aTIV) vaccine. This vaccine has been used widely in other countries and has been shown to offer a greater level of protection than previous vaccines for people of this age.
- 2. Those aged between 18 and 65, who are at risk of catching flu, will receive a quadrivalent vaccine (QIV) which protects against four strains of flu.

Children eligible for a vaccination should receive a quadrivalent influenza vaccine which is a nasal vaccine. All children who were born on or after 1st September 2014 and on or before 31st August 2016 are eligible for vaccine as well as those older children who receive a letter of invitation for flu vaccine. Primary school aged children born between 1.9.2008 and 31.8.2014 will be offered vaccination at school. The effectiveness of this vaccine is good and children under the age of 5 have the highest rate of hospital admission for flu of all age groups so the vaccine is a worthwhile precaution. Please ask the receptionist if this is in stock before booking an appointment.

Appointments:

Because of the variety of vaccines being given this year, along with a planned slower supply of the vaccine for those aged 65+ all patients need to book an appointment for their vaccination. We have ordered enough vaccines to immunise all eligible patients but supply will be limited each month. We will receive a third of 65+ vaccines at the end of September and a third in October and a third in November. Under 65's at risk - vaccines will be delivered in September and October. Please book your appointment now by either telephoning or booking in with the receptionist in person.

Flu Clinics

Saturday 22nd September – 8am-11am at Aylmer Lodge & Cookley
Saturday 29th September – 8am-11am at Aylmer Lodge (Under 65s at risk only)
Saturday 13th October –8am-11am at Aylmer Lodge
Saturday 3rd November – 8am – 11am – Aylmer Lodge and Cookley

Patient Online Access

For ease of use to our patients, the Practice offers Online Access for appointments, repeat prescriptions. You can request Online Access by visiting our practice website or call in to see our receptionists.

Staff News

Dr Ruth Snowball has now left the practice but continues to work some sessions as a Locum GP. We have a new GP, Alison Riley who will commence with us in early October.

Dr Sophie Lord will be changing her working days to a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Sister Anna has passed her Practice Nursing Degree. Well done Anna!

Patient Participation Group Health Event 10 & 11 September 11am-2.30pm Venue: The Waiting Room at Aylmer Lodge

Do you or a family member have diabetes or pre-diabetes?

Would you like to speak to an expert and understand your condition better?

We would love to see you on either or both of these dates. If you are interested in joining our group – please talk to one of the group members on the day.

How we use your medical records Important information for patients

- This practice handles medical records in-line with laws on data protection and confidentiality.
- We share medical records with those who are involved in providing you with care and treatment.
- In some circumstances we will also share medical records for medical research, for example to find out more about why people get ill.
- We share information when the law requires us to do so, for example, to prevent infectious diseases from spreading or to check the care being provided to you is safe.
- You have the right to be given a copy of your medical record.
- You have the right to object to your medical records being shared with those who provide you with care.
- You have the right to object to your information being used for medical research and to plan health services.
- You have the right to have any mistakes corrected and to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. Please see the practice privacy notice on the website or speak to a member of staff for more information about your rights.

For more information ask at reception for a leaflet or visit our website