



**PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP
WINTER 2024
Quarterly Newsletter**

MISSED APPOINTMENTS UPDATE

In October there were 39 GP appointments that patients did not attend which was a significant improvement since the summer figures. However, the Nurses/Phlebotomists appointments missed have increased to 133.

FREE WINTER VACCINATIONS

Flu: - Available to adults aged 65 years and over, adults under 65 with qualifying medical conditions. Any queries regarding children or medical conditions please contact your local Pharmacy or your Doctor.

Covid:- Available to adults aged 65 years and over, anyone who lives in a Care Home or those who may be in a clinical risk group.

RSV:- Available for those aged 75 to 79 from 1st September 2024 and pregnant women who are at least 28 weeks along in their pregnancy. If in doubt as to your eligibility please speak to your local Pharmacy.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Please note that the Surgery will be closed 25th December, 26th December and 1st January as these are national bank holidays so please ensure you have enough regularly prescribed medication to cover this period.

Our website and telephone service will provide the information you may need if a medical service is required on those days.

PHARMACY FIRST - MINOR AILMENTS SCHEME

NHS England relaunched their Pharmacy First public-facing campaign on Monday 11th November 2024.

Clinical pathways consultations

- This involves pharmacists providing advice and NHS-funded treatment, where clinically appropriate, for seven common conditions:



- This part of the service can be provided to patients electronically referred by general practices, as well as NHS 111 and others.
- There is a clinical pathway for each of the seven conditions, which identifies when a patient can be treated under the service and when they should be referred to another healthcare professional; this is what the pharmacist will use to decide if the patient is eligible for the service.
- In the clinical pathway consultation with a pharmacist, people with symptoms suggestive of the seven conditions will be provided with advice and will be supplied, where clinically appropriate, with a prescription-only treatment under a Patient Group Direction (PGD) or in one pathway, an over-the-counter medicine, all at NHS expense.