

ABINGDON MEDICAL PRACTICE



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NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN/WINTER 2022

STAFF CHANGES

Dr Dharshika Srikantharajah came back from maternity leave in September. It is with great regret that she will be leaving the practice in December. We wish her the very best of luck in her future career. Dr Lilian Swan and Dr Hajra Siraj will be looking after her patients when Dr Sri leaves the practice.

The practice welcomes a new GP registrar – Dr Shahswar Zearmal who will be working with our team until February 2023.

INFLUENZA

Our Flu clinics have been set up and appointments are available to book. Please call the practice on 020 7795 8470 to book your appointment.

Who can have the flu vaccine?

The flu vaccine is given free on the NHS to adults who:

- are 65 and over (including those who will be 65 by 31 March 2023)
- have long term health conditions
- are pregnant
- are in long-stay residential care
- receive a carer's allowance, or are the main carer for an older or disabled person who may be at risk if you get sick
- live with someone who is more likely to get a severe infection due to a weakened immune system, such as someone living with HIV, someone who has had a transplant, or is having certain treatments for cancer, lupus, or rheumatoid arthritis
- are frontline health workers
- are social care workers who cannot

get the vaccine through an occupational health scheme at work

Starting from mid-October, people aged 50 years old or over (including those who will be 50 years old by 31 March 2023) can have a free NHS flu vaccine. This is so at-risk groups can be offered vaccination first.

Housebound patients will be visited by the district nurses at their homes, please allow some time for the visits to take place.

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME

We can also book patients in for a Covid-19 autumn booster at The Violet Melchett Vaccination Centre and at St Charles Vaccination Centre. Depending on availability, flu vaccine may be administered at the same time.

You can also book an appointment with one of the local pharmacies.

Housebound patients will be visited by the Covid-19 house vaccination team at their homes, please allow some time for the visits to take place.

Even if you have been vaccinated before, your immunity levels will be coming down, making you more susceptible to catch COVID over the winter so it is important to grab your jab!

SHINGLES

You are eligible for the shingles vaccine if you are aged 70 to 79. In the 2021 to 2022 financial year, adults become eligible at 70 years old and all those who have previously been offered the shingles vaccine remain eligible until their 80th birthday.

PNEUMONIA VACCINATION

If you have not had your pneumonia vaccination and you are aged over 65 or between the ages of 2 and 65 with a chronic disease, please contact the surgery to arrange an appointment. This vaccination is a 'one off' unlike the influenza vaccination thus you will only need to have it once.

MISSED APPOINTMENTS

During the months of July (83) August (54) and September (76), a total of 213 patients failed to attend their appointment. Please contact the surgery if you

are unable to attend your appointment.

You can also cancel appointments by texting your Date of Birth and appointment details to 07385543698.

Repeated DNA (did not attend) offenders may be removed from the Practice list.

WEST LONDON ENHANCED ACCESS HUBS

The Enhanced Access HUBs within the Royal Borough of K&C offer our locally registered patients additional access to services in the evenings, weekends and bank holidays.

The Enhanced Access HUBs provide a range of appointments that our GP practice can refer you into including:

- * GP Appointments
- * Nursing Appointments
- * Blood Tests
- * Medication Reviews
- * Cervical Screening
- * Childhood Immunisations
- * Wound Care

To be referred into this service, please enquire about the Enhanced Access HUBs with our GP reception team and they will be able to assist you.

Our Local HUBs:

- St Charles Centre for Health & Wellbeing – Integrated Care Centre, Exmoor St, London, W10 6DZ
- The Violet Melchett Health Centre, 30 Flood Walk, London, SW3 5RR

Opening Times: Mon-Fri: 18:30-21:00 and Sat-Sun: 08:00-20:00

ZERO TOLERANCE

We value and care for our staff. We would like to ask that they are treated with courtesy and respect.

ONLINE ACCESS

If you are registered with the Abingdon Medical Practice, please complete the Online Assess Request form which you can find on the practice's website (please go to online services) to request access to our online services such as appointment booking/cancelling and prescription requests.

Further facilities will be made available once you have registered.

