

Flu vaccination programme for 2020

It is really important that all eligible patients are vaccinated against flu this coming Winter season. This will protect against seasonal flu and reduce the burden of an outbreak of flu on the NHS. At Chew Medical practice we are looking forward to welcoming you for your vaccination and are taking every precaution to ensure this is done in a safe and secure environment. The flu clinics are being held outside normal opening hours on consecutive Saturdays from the 19th September and Wednesday evenings from the 23rd September. We will be offering more clinics, with less people attending at each time, to ensure adequate social distancing is maintained throughout. We will be operating a one way system, using a different entrance for arriving and departing. We ask that patients attend at the exact time of their booked appointment and do not arrive early to ensure that the correct numbers of patients are in the practice at any one time. We also request that all patients attending the practice wear a face covering, unless they are exempt for health, age or equality reasons.

NHS England has recommended the use of two different types of flu vaccine for different patient groups.

- Patients aged 18-65 who are clinically 'at risk' from flu, including patients with diabetes, COPD and pregnant women, will be offered the quadrivalent vaccine (QIVc)
- Patients aged 65 years and over, will be offered the adjuvanted trivalent vaccine (aTIV)
- Household contacts of those on the NHS Shielded Patient List, specifically individuals who expect to share living accommodation with a shielded person on most days over the winter.
- Health and Social Care workers
- Children aged 2 and 3 years will be vaccinated at practices
- Children from Reception to Year 7 will be vaccinated at school
- The Government has announced they aim to further extend the flu vaccine programme in November and December to include the 50-64 year old age group subject to vaccine supply; we are awaiting further guidance on how these will be delivered.

Please contact the surgery on 01275 332 420 to book your vaccination appointment. Thank you for continuing to support your NHS General Practice by choosing to receive your flu vaccination with us.

Please check our website <https://www.chewmedicalpractice.co.uk> for information regarding the 'At Risk' groups and further guidance on the 50-65 year vaccination programme for 2020.