

Hampton Surgery AUGUST 2018

INFLUENZA VACCINE

Due to a change in National guidance from this autumn all patients over 65 will be offered a different flu vaccine. The vaccine is similar to the usual vaccine but just made in a slightly different way to make it the most effective vaccine for patients in this age group. This is a national plan and is being instigated following research on effectiveness of the flu vaccine among certain age groups. Vaccinations for patients aged under 65 and the under 18s remain unchanged.

The vaccines will also be distributed across a longer time period and we will only receive part of our allocation in September. With all this in mind we won't be releasing our flu clinic dates for patients until we have exact delivery dates which we will not receive until late in August. We will contact all eligible patients in due course and plan to run flu clinics throughout SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER and NOVEMBER.

Last year we saw a significant increase in flu illness among the community and vaccination remains one of the best ways of reducing significant illness and hospital admission

We thank you for your continued support in taking up the offer of the vaccine at the surgery.

Please can we remind all patients that the practice does not accept requests for repeat prescriptions from patients over the phone unless you are house bound. Repeat prescriptions can be ordered by signing up to online access (forms are available at reception or on our website) or by dropping a request in at the surgery. You can use the letterbox on the side door if the surgery is closed.

Please allow at least 48 hours for us to ask the doctors to authorise your prescription. It will then be sent on to the pharmacy or be available for you to collect from us in paper form.

Thanks to everyone who completed the practice survey during July. The results are being analysed and will be detailed in the next newsletter

If you get regular prescriptions, the Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) may be able to save you time by avoiding unnecessary trips to your GP. EPS makes it possible for your prescriptions to be sent electronically to the pharmacy or dispenser of your choice.

By visiting the pharmacy of your choice and signing up for EPS you will not have to come back to the surgery to collect your paper prescriptions. All pharmacies displaying the EPS sign will offer this service



IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED THIS NEWSLETTER TO BE MADE AVAILABLE IN A BIGGER PRINT PLEASE CONTACT THE SURGERY ON 01675 442510.

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In recent years, cervical cancer has become the most common cancer among women under the age of 35. Every year 700 women will die from this disease. Having a cervical smear through the cervical smear screening programme saves 4500 lives every year.

The aim of the NHS Cervical Screening Programme is to reduce the number of women who develop cervical cancer and the number of women who die from the condition. Since the screening programme was introduced in the 1980s, the number of cervical cancer cases has decreased by about 7% each year.

All women who are registered with a GP are invited to book an appointment with one of the practice nurses to have their cervical screening:

aged 25 to 49 – every 3 years

aged 50 to 64 – every 5 years

over 65 – only women who haven't been screened since age 50 or those who have recently had abnormal tests

Unfortunately nationally the number of women attending for their smear test is decreasing. At the current time the practice has around 20% of patients who for whatever reason are not up to date with their cervical screening. Please do not ignore the screening letter when it arrives on your door step, if you are worried or concerned about having a smear test then book an appointment with one of the practice nurses or give them a call to discuss your concerns on 01675 442510.



Don't lose the chance to reduce your risk of cervical cancer

Smear test overdue? Book yours today.

Jo's cervical cancer trust
Information / Support / Friends

Helpline 0808 802 8000
jostrust.org.uk

Registered in England and Wales Company Limited by Guarantee: 7111976 Registered Charity Number: 1133542 Registered Scottish Charity Number: SC041236

August sees our Foundation Doctors and present GP Registrar move onto their next rotation or having passed all their GP requirements go out in to the big wide world to become GP's so THANK YOU to Drs Hudson, Godden & Vepa for all their hard work. Drs Gill, Eden & Putt will be moving here for various lengths of placement during 2018/19 and we hope you will join with us to give them a warm welcome.

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