

NEWSLETTER

Keeping you Informed

When the Surgery is Closed

If you become unwell when the surgery is closed please ring 111 and they will be able to advise you. This service is manned 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

Carers

Do you look after someone who couldn't manage without your help? Please let us know so we can support you and put you in touch with Carers Support Wiltshire, who are a local charity.

Shingles

We offer Shingles vaccinations to the eligible cohort of patients between 70 or 80. Please contact the surgery to check if you are eligible.

Pneumococcal Vaccine

We would like to vaccinate patients over the age of 65 who are eligible for the pneumococcal vaccine. Please contact us to see if you are eligible and the necessary appointment can be booked in with either Ali or Elly.

New Staff - We have two new members of staff, Donna and Sonja. They both started with us in June and are settling in well. They join the administration team.

Coronavirus vaccine - The vaccinating of remaining patients is being done through the National Booking System. Please book your vaccine via the Government website or call 119.

Prescriptions - Please could we ask all our patients to make sure they do not over order non-monthly medications, e.g. creams etc as unwanted and unused medication creates a huge cost to the NHS. Once medication has left the surgery premises we are unable to take it back into stock. We receive a number of duplicate prescription requests for example, online and then by phone. Please order one way only to avoid this.

Carers - Are you a carer? Do you care for a family member or friend in an unpaid role? If the answer is yes, please let us know. We carry out specific events to support Carers along with signposting to local services within the community and can ensure you are supported by Carers Support Wiltshire. Please ask at reception for a Carers Registration form to complete or speak to our Carers Leads, Katy or Mary.

Mammograms - Women in England who are aged from 50 to their 71st birthday and registered with a GP are automatically invited for screening every 3 years. You'll first be invited for screening between the ages of 50 and 53.

If you want to change the appointment you have been given, contact the name and address on your invitation letter. You may be eligible for breast cancer screening before the age of 50 if you have a very high risk of developing breast cancer. If you're 71 or over, you'll stop receiving screening invitations. But you can still ask to have breast screening. The contact number is 01793 604036.



NHS Health Checks

If you are aged between 40 and 74 and your age ends with a 0 or 5 you are eligible for a NHS Health check. If you would like this check, please call the surgery and book with a practice nurse. Ali or Elly will be very pleased to see you.

MenACWY

If you are aged between 18 and 25 you could be eligible for a MenACWY vaccine. Please call the surgery to book your appointment with one of our nurses.

Flu Vaccines

Flu vaccines will be offered to all clinically vulnerable patients as in previous years. It will also be offered to those over the age of 50, as last season. We will keep you informed when we have further information. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for the most up to date information.

Covid-19 Boosters Vaccines

These booster vaccines will be offered to all high risk patients, once it has been clarified by the Government. Our website will contain the most up to date information about these boosters and we will contact people when they are eligible.

Please attend your appointments if invited.

Cervical Screening - Cervical screening (a smear test) checks the health of your cervix. The cervix is the opening to your womb from your vagina.

It's not a test for cancer, it's a test to help prevent cancer. All women and people with a cervix aged 25 to 64 should be invited by letter. During the screening appointment, a small sample of cells will be taken from your cervix.

We will aim to make the appointment as comfortable as possible for you. If you have any concerns about the screening, please do not hesitate and speak to one of our doctors or nurses.

The sample is checked for certain types of human papillomavirus (HPV) that can cause changes to the cells of your cervix. These are called "high risk" types of HPV. If these types of HPV are not found, you do not need any further tests. If these types of HPV are found, the sample is then checked for any changes in the cells of your cervix. These can then be treated before they get a chance to turn into cervical cancer. You'll get your results by letter, usually in about 2 weeks. It will explain what happens next.

Bowel Cancer Screening - NHS bowel cancer screening checks if you could have bowel cancer. It's available to everyone aged 60 or over. The programme is expanding to include 56 year olds in 2021. You use a home test kit, called a faecal immunochemical test (FIT), to collect a small sample of poo and send it to a lab. This is checked for tiny amounts of blood. Blood can be a sign of polyps or bowel cancer. Polyps are growths in the bowel. They are not cancer, but may turn into cancer over time.

If the test finds anything unusual, you might be asked to have further tests to confirm or rule out cancer.

Always see a GP if you have symptoms of bowel cancer at any age, even if you have recently completed a NHS bowel cancer screening test kit - do not wait to have a screening test.

Thank you all for your amazing patience during what is a very busy time. This may often mean longer waiting times at the front desk, back window or on the telephone. Thank you for understanding.

