



# THE WILSON PRACTICE

Patient update 19 February 2021

## Vaccination latest and an update on routine care

### How are we doing?

- **4,255 Wilson Practice patients** have received their first **Coronavirus vaccination** (as at 17 February – with a slight caveat that the electronic systems used in the vaccination centres sometimes take a day or so to update patients' clinical records)
- **93%** of patients aged **65 years and over** have now been vaccinated.

We urge anyone **aged 65 and above who is suitable for a vaccination, who has not yet had their first vaccination and who wishes to do so, to contact either:**

- the national booking system (online at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/> or by calling 119), for a range of options within a 45 mile radius of your home, **or**
  - the practice, either by eConsult on the home page of our website (*Admin option*) or telephone (*after 10am, please*), to book into the north Hampshire vaccination hub at the Hampshire Court Hotel.
- We started inviting **patients aged 60-64 who have one or more long-term condition** on Monday of this week (15 Feb).

The practice, and the A31 Group of Practices Primary Care Network, of which we are a part, is delighted with progress to date. We aim to ensure that patients are invited to the local hub promptly, as soon as we receive notification that the next NHS England grouping (cohort) is eligible and when we know that vaccine delivery is confirmed. We make local arrangements with the small number of patients who are unable to travel to get their vaccination.

### News and Developments

#### Care Homes

We continue to vaccinate the small number of our patients living in care homes who have not previously received their first vaccine. We are also now vaccinating patients with a learning disability who live in residential care.

#### Health and social care workers

We have vaccinated many staff in care homes but the national advice to anyone in this group who has not yet had their first jab is to arrange your first and second appointments through the national booking centre (*see details above*).

#### Second dose

The second dose of vaccine should be given between 11 and 12 weeks after the first. If you attended the Hampshire Court Hotel for your first vaccination, you will be contacted with details of your second appointment as clinic schedules and vaccine deliveries are confirmed. This contact may come from the vaccination centre directly. **You do not need to contact the surgery.** If you had your first vaccination in another setting (when you had a hospital appointment, for example) you will also be contacted to arrange your second jab.

## Other GP services (business as usual)

As we have previously emphasised, the local Covid vaccination arrangements have been designed to enable practices to continue to provide high quality and timely primary care for all our patients. We are acutely aware that, in the early stages of the pandemic and 'Lockdown 1', there was an understandable reduction in patients seeking GP appointments and practices were forced to suspend a lot of routine monitoring for patients with long term conditions. Nationally, this has had an adverse impact on some people's health.

Practice services are now available as usual for all our patients (albeit consulting with more people via eConsult or the telephone in the first instance to reduce footfall into the Health Centre), and we encourage everyone, including patients who have cancer, or who have worrying symptoms that require investigation, those with chronic diseases, minor injuries or concerns regarding child or women's health, to contact us promptly.

The positive news about the changes we have made to how we consult with patients is that we are much more responsive: an eConsult receives a reply within two working days – generally much, much sooner, and if a face-to-face appointment is required this happens much more quickly than in the past.

As mentioned above, some of our routine surveillance of patients with long-term conditions has fallen behind. We are working hard to catch up and will explain more about our plans in the coming weeks. **This week we focus on care for patients with diabetes.**

### Update on diabetes monitoring

The Wilson Practice supports more than 900 patients with diabetes. We haven't seen all of them as regularly as we would like since the start of the pandemic, so in order to redress this, the practice diabetes team, led by Sisters Alison Frater and Wendy Morris, is providing extra clinics on Saturdays, with particular focus on foot and kidney care. We are extremely grateful to the team for giving up their time to make this happen. We are contacting patients to arrange these appointments and encourage everyone invited to take up these appointments.

## *And finally.....*

A big thank you to those of you who have taken the time to send us feedback on the vaccination process. We are really pleased to hear that the vast majority of you have had such a positive experience and have passed on many of your comments to the practice team and colleagues at the vaccination centre, providing a very welcome boost to morale.

