



THE WILSON PRACTICE

Patient update 25th February 2021

WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

How are we doing?

- We have now vaccinated 4835 patients (32% of our practice population)
- Of those patients able and willing to have the vaccination, our completed numbers are:
 - 100% of our 80 years and over
 - 97% of our 75-79 years
 - 97% of our 70-74 years
 - 89% of our 65-69 years
- We are now inviting patients with long term conditions aged 55 and over.

News and Developments

Health and social care workers in group 2: If you are in this group and have not yet had your first vaccination, you can now arrange this via the national booking service at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination at any time, or call 119 free of charge, between 7am and 11pm seven days a week. ***This option is only available until 28th February so please act now!***

Underlying health conditions: If you are aged **between 55 and 64 years**, have been invited to have the vaccine due to having an **underlying health condition** that increases your risk from Covid-19 but have **not yet booked** your appointment, you can now do so via the national booking service at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination at any time, or call 119 free of charge, between 7am and 11pm seven days a week.

Shielding: All patients that have been shielding should by now have received a letter from the NHS explaining that this advice has now been extended to 31st March 2021. If you have received one of these letters, please continue to follow shielding guidance to help you to stay safe and well.

Adult carers: If you are **18 years of age or over** and in receipt of a **carer's allowance**, or are the **sole or primary carer** of an elderly or disabled person at high risk from Covid-19, you can now book your vaccination via the national booking service at www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination at any time, or call 119 free of charge, between 7am and 11pm seven days a week.

Clinic dates: We are expecting our vaccine supply to be less than before in the next few weeks. This means that we will not be able to invite as many people over the next few weeks as we have done so far. This situation is beyond our local control and we will continue to do everything that we can to ensure you receive your vaccination as quickly as possible.

Groups 1-9 target: The Government has announced a new target for everyone in priority groups 1-9 to receive their first Covid vaccination by 15th April. This is a challenging target, especially as second doses

become due from March onwards. We are already looking at how we might achieve this and will keep you informed of our progress in the coming weeks.

Focus on – patients newly identified as at increased risk from Covid-19

Why am I only now being identified as at high risk?

When Covid-19 first appeared last year, very little was known about it. Over the course of the year, we have learned so much more about the things that are likely to make people seriously ill if they catch the infection. A new risk assessment tool has been developed using data gathered during the early stages of the pandemic. It can predict a person's risk of becoming very ill from Covid-19 and has identified a number of additional health conditions that put people at higher risk. If you have been identified as having one of these conditions you will be prioritised to receive your vaccination.

Do I have to follow the shielding advice?

If you are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 infection, you are strongly encouraged to follow shielding guidance. However, this is advice and not compulsory. You can choose to leave the house and work if you want to. Employers should be doing all they can to provide a Covid secure workplace.

Could I have been added to the shielding list in error?

The tool uses coded information contained in your medical record. A caution approach has been taken to ensure that everyone who could potentially be at higher risk has access to the vaccine at the earliest possible stage. Your GP can review your medical record and add or remove you from the shielding list.

And finally.....

Thank you once again for your continued support which means so much to all those involved in every aspect of the Covid programme. Please do everything you can to stay safe and well.



WE'RE ALL IN THIS
together