



# THE WILSON PRACTICE

Patient update 30 March 2021

## VACCINATION LATEST

### Summary figures

As of 30 March **7,619** Wilson Practice patients have had at least their first Coronavirus vaccination (348 have already have two!). That's:

- ✓ **91%** of patients aged 50 and above, and anyone with an underlying condition or who is a carer
- ✓ **63%** of our entire adult population (everyone aged 18 and over)

This feels very positive and is a reflection of just how fast the vaccination programme is now moving as we look towards spring and some careful easing of current restrictions. As most people know, we are moving down the age and vulnerability groups. Apart from those with an underlying health condition or caring responsibilities, patients who are 49 years or younger are still to be called.

**Administering second doses** for housebound patients, care home residents and staff, is now the **practice priority**. Our GPs and nurses will be busy doing these, in addition to their usual clinics and including over the Easter weekend, to avoid disrupting services after the Bank Holiday.

We expect April to be quieter for first jabs, partly due to the supply issues you may have heard about, but also as the vaccination hubs start delivering second jabs to the older and most vulnerable groups and the carers who support them. From May, younger patients will have the opportunity to receive their first vaccination at either the locally-organised site at the Hampshire Court Hotel or one of the many 'mass' sites, including Boots in Alton, the Holiday Inn at Morn Hill in Winchester and Basingstoke Fire Station, which are co-ordinated centrally. There's a way to go – we have 4,500 patients still to reach. We are grateful to everyone for responding positively when they get called.

### A bit about invitations

#### Mass and local sites

Please be aware that the booking systems for the local service and the mass sites are independent. Everyone would have wished this to be different, but when things were set up, it was all about getting up and running quickly. This means that the national booking line cannot see any appointments at the Hampshire Court Hotel, or vice versa. Patients can book with either service, but if you wish to change from one service to another, it will require two calls or contacts.

### Text messages from the practice come via AccuRx



A number of patients have asked us whether the text message they have received via AccuRx about booking vaccinations is genuine. The short answer is **YES**. AccuRx is a software system that enables GP practices to contact patients with smart phones securely and enables patients to book vaccination appointments via their phone. GPs also use it routinely to contact patients; it also allows patients to send images to their GP if required. The text messages are all logged direct to the patient's medical record. The practice still contacts patients by telephone and letter; this is simply a way of us reaching a large number of patients quickly, freeing up staff to use other communication for those who do not use this technology.

### Please (continue to) take care

The vaccination programme is giving us all real hope of a return to some more 'normal' activities, but **HANDS ~ FACE ~ SPACE** is still a really sensible motto to live by. Local public health figures have reported a 'spike' in children presenting with infections (not necessarily Covid) since the schools re-opened, which is a reminder to us all.

