

Oldwood Surgery & Battle Health Centre

Flu clinics 2020

To help us organise and conduct our influenza (flu) clinics during the Covid Pandemic, we are making some changes to how we offer the service this year. This will allow us to adhere to social distancing guidelines and undertake a safe and productive vaccination clinic.

The clinics will be:

1. Robertsbridge Village Hall, Saturday 26th September 2020
2. Battle Health Clinic, Saturday 10th October 2020

Appointments:

- To allow for social distancing, we will be booking people into 'blocks' of 15 minutes, which we will be allocating on a 'first come, first served basis'. We ask that you arrive for the start of your allocated 15-minute appointment block.
- You will receive confirmation of your appointment time via text (or post or phone if we do not have a mobile number). Whilst we appreciate assigned appointments may cause some inconvenience, it is necessary for us to provide a socially distanced clinic. We ask that you only contact the surgery, by phone or Engage Consult (online), for an alternate time if **absolutely necessary**.
- We are expecting a higher than usual demand for the flu vaccine this year and so would ask you to arrive on time as we cannot guarantee we can give you a vaccination if you arrive late.
- Please do not arrive before your allocated time.

On the Day:

- If you or a household contact have recently developed Covid symptoms, including a cough, fever, loss of taste or smell, or you are isolating due to contact with a confirmed case, then please follow Government guidance to stay at home and do not attend the clinic
- Support staff and PPG (Patient Participation Group) volunteers will be on hand to help – please follow their guidance
- Please wear a face mask both inside the building and in the queue outside
- Only bring another person with you if they are also receiving a flu vaccine or if necessary for your safety; we ask that children are not brought to the clinic unless absolutely necessary

On arriving:

- Please wear clothing that allows easy access to your preferred upper arm
- You will be asked to queue outside in a socially distanced fashion 2m apart. If it is raining, please dress appropriately and/or bring an umbrella. The queue will be shorter than normal and we will aim to get you in and out as quickly as possible.

- Please uncover the arm for injection as you get towards the front of the queue so you are ready as soon as you are called forward.
- On entering the building, you will be guided towards one of our GPs or nurses who will be wearing PPE. Your name and date of birth will be checked and you will receive your vaccine.
- Please avoid touching any surfaces whilst on site.
- The GP or nurse will aim to give you your vaccine without touching your skin – please follow their instructions on the day.
- Once you have been vaccinated, you will be directed to the exit at the other side of the building (single flow through the building) and can exit back to the car park
- Should you feel unwell at the clinic, please talk to a member of the team
- We will have toilets available but ask that you only use them in an emergency

Who is eligible for the flu vaccine?

This year the flu vaccine is being offered on the NHS to:

- adults 65 and over
- people with certain medical conditions (including children in at-risk groups from 6 months of age)
- pregnant women
- people living with someone who's at high risk from coronavirus (on the NHS shielded patient list)
- children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2020
- children in primary school & year 7 at secondary school (this will be offered by the School Nursing Team at school)
- frontline health or social care workers

Later in the year, the flu vaccine may be given to people aged 50 to 64. More information will be available later in the autumn. However, if you're aged 50 to 64 and in an at-risk group, you should not delay having your flu vaccine.

Children's Clinics

We will be arranging separate children's clinics. We will be in touch with the parents/carers of those eligible with dates. Children in primary school and year 7 at secondary school will be immunised by the School Nursing Team at school. The exception is children living with someone who is at high risk from coronavirus (on the NHS shielded patient list) – we are hoping to do these children at the same time as their vulnerable person but are awaiting guidance on this.

More guidance on flu vaccination

For more guidance on the flu vaccination, visit nhs.uk:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/>

And for children:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/>