



June 2021

Dear All,

Vaccination update & more.....

As we head into the summer months, we're delighted to share the progress for the COVID vaccination programme for our community:

- Number of adults who have received their 1st vaccination (7,512 / 89% of the community)
- Number of adults who have received their 2nd vaccination (6,359 / 75% of the community)

This is an amazing achievement, with so many patients getting vaccinated to help protect themselves, their families and the community. Thank you all.

As an adult, if you haven't done so already (or if you've previously declined and want to change your mind it's not too late), it's really important to get vaccinated as soon as possible, so please don't delay. What's more, with the surgery now operating AstraZeneca **AND** Pfizer clinics at the Millpool Centre in Looe, you can take advantage of getting vaccinated as close to home as possible.

Call NOW for your COVID Vaccination - 01503 266 960

Of course, running COVID clinics does bring extra pressures for the surgery, and we are extremely grateful for the Looe Lions who have continued to support our COVID clinics throughout, and to Pearns who have provided free parking for our staff and volunteers on our clinic dates. Thank you all.

Local Pharmacies & LIVI here to help too...

With increasing demands on the surgery, although we are very much open and here for our patients, please do remember that our local pharmacies and LIVI are here for you too.

Advice and remedies on the high street

Pharmacies can give treatment advice about a range of common conditions and minor injuries, such as aches and pains, sore throat, coughs, colds, flu, earache, cystitis, skin rashes, teething and red eye. If you want to buy an over-the-counter medicine, the pharmacist and their team can help you choose, but like us, if you have any COVID-like symptoms it is vital that you do not attend in person.

Accessing GPs... outside of surgery opening times

Accessing a GP when the surgery is closed can feel quite stressful. Of course in medical 'life threatening' emergencies please continue to call 999. For non-life threatening situations, please call 111 or contact a GP via LIVI.

Accessible for Old Bridge Surgery patients, LIVI GPs are all GMC-registered NHS-GPs who (with your consent) are able to access your medical records and give a considered, in-depth diagnosis based on your medical history. Free of charge, over 1500 of our patients have already signed up for LIVI and the feedback has been very positive, with some reporting that they have had access to a GP within 10 minutes. You can download the LIVI app via the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android), or visit their website <https://bit.ly/32S8HCz>.

Keep Safe

We would also urge everyone to make twice-weekly testing part of their routine so we can identify cases even when people have no symptoms. Rapid Lateral Flow Tests are free of charge and can be picked up from your local pharmacy or ordered online.

If anyone does develop symptoms, which include a new continuous cough, high temperature, loss or change to their sense of taste or smell, or more recently latest variants are simply displaying as a sore throat or runny/blocked nose (more like a common cold), they should self-isolate straight away and go for a COVID test.

Finally, if you haven't done so already, please contact the surgery to book your COVID vaccination as we are trying to complete the vaccinations as soon as possible, especially with planning for this winter's flu vaccination programme underway.

In the meantime, please remember 'Hands. Face. Space and Fresh Air'.

Drs Kodde, Mogford and Buchanan
Partners, Old Bridge Surgery, and the Surgery Team