

COVID BOOSTER & FLU UPDATE

September 2021

Dear All,

We are delighted to confirm that we have started to call in patients to have their Covid booster vaccination at Looe Community Academy, making accessing the vaccine locally a priority for the surgery and our Community. Eligible patients include all those aged 50 years and over, plus vulnerable patients under the age of 50 years.

For Cornwall it is likely that the Pfizer vaccine will be offered to all, irrespective of the vaccine given before. The only exception is for those patients who are clinically not appropriate for Pfizer, and these will be offered AstraZeneca instead.

Patients will be contacted by the surgery based on the date of their 2nd Covid vaccination. The Covid booster can only be given at least 6 months after the 2nd vaccination, which means we are currently recalling those that had their 2nd Covid vaccine on or before March 25th 2021. Our first clinics are scheduled for Saturday September 25th and Saturday October 2nd at Looe Community Academy, **and you will be offered your flu vaccination at the same time**. Further clinics will be added, including some at the Millpool Centre and, subject to vaccine supply, we'll aim to vaccinate eligible patients as soon as possible.

On arrival at the vaccine clinics, please can you observe the following guidelines, and for your added reassurance doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants and non-clinical staff will be on hand to ensure your vaccination experience is as safe and quick as possible.

Guidelines:

- Vaccines cannot be administered if you have been diagnosed with Covid in the previous 28 days
- Do not attend the clinics if you have been diagnosed with Covid in the previous 28 days, or currently have or are isolating due to Covid
- Please also do not attend if you are feverish and/or have Covid like symptoms, remembering that you need to have a PCR test if you are experiencing Covid symptoms. *Covid symptoms include headache, cough, high temperature, cold or flu like symptoms and /or loss or taste or smell*
- Please arrive on time, with an appointment, wearing a mask and a short sleeved 'easy access' top so that we can quickly access your arms

If you are not eligible for a Covid vaccine, but are eligible for flu only, we will be contacting you to book your flu appointment as soon as possible too.

Finally, heading into the Autumn and Winter, your help in protecting yourself and in doing so protecting the Surgery and the impact on the NHS is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

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