

IMMUNISATION UPDATE AND FLU CAMPAIGN

ADULT FLU CLINIC SATURDAY 1st OCTOBER 2016

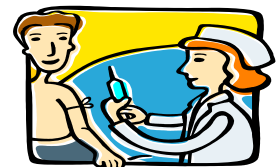
The seasonal flu campaign starts on the 1st October 2016 and runs through to December. Adults who are entitled to get a flu vaccination should phone the receptionist to make an appointment at the Saturday clinic.

It is recommended that all patients over 65 years of age receive this vaccination as well as "At Risk" groups under 65. This list includes those with the following chronic diseases: respiratory including asthma, heart disease, renal disease, liver disease, neurological disease; diabetes and patients on certain medication. Please check the web site for further information.

All pre-school children are being offered a flu vaccina-

tion this year. Letters will be sent to parents inviting the children in this age group to attend for this immunisation at specific clinics.

Children under 16 who are "at risk" are also being sent letters to invite them to specific clinics.



SHINGLES VACCINATION

This is a new vaccine for people aged 70 and over. The vaccine is being offered to patients over 70 but under 80 years of age. This vaccine will be available all year and we will send a letter to invite patients to attend for this vaccination at the surgery.

BLOOD TESTS—When you have attended the surgery to have blood tests done please do not assume that the doctor will contact you with the results.

At least one week after you have had tests done please phone the surgery and ask if the results of your blood tests are available.

The receptionists will let you know if the results are satisfactory or if the doctor wants to discuss the results with you. It is important that you follow up the test results yourself.

PATIENTS OVER 75—if you find it difficult to get to the surgery we can arrange transport for you through the Royal Voluntary Service. A volunteer will pick you up at your home and bring you to the surgery. Please contact reception if you would like to use this service to attend an appointment. Why not try it out when you want to have your flu vaccination? Volunteers are also needed to help provide this service for the elderly in the community.

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INTERNET USERS

Why not visit our website? www.gullanemedicalpractice.co.uk.

There is lots of useful information on the website. You can check up on our opening times, as well as find out when each of the doctors is consulting. In addition you can order repeat prescriptions and send us notification of change of address or cancel appointments.

It is quick and easy to use as well as convenient when the Practice is closed or the phone lines are busy. Please use the website for ordering repeat prescriptions. Follow the links to the secure web page where you can list your repeat prescriptions and send requests securely through to the practice.

We will be happy to spend time showing you how to access the repeat prescription service and how to order a prescription on line for yourself and your family.

We use the website to advise of days when we will be closed, to update you on forthcoming flu vaccination campaign as well as other news as it happens.



Staff Training—Its important that all staff keep up to date with changes and developments in patient care and services. We, therefore, take the opportunity to participate in the local training programme for General Practice. For this to be available to everyone we have to close the surgery. The Practice will be closed on several Wednesday afternoons during the year from 12.30pm. The next staff training events are on Wednesday 5th October and Wednesday 30th November. Medical emergencies on these afternoons will be dealt with by NHS 24: phone 111