

Staff changes

Dr Zamir has undergone a planned operation and is recovering well and will be returning to work around mid-November.

Mrs Gail Bonner, our Reception team leader, has left her role at the end of October. We wish her well for her future endeavours. Mrs Carly Clarke will be stepping into the role.

Appointment system changes

Online consultations – NHS changes from 1st October have meant that we have needed to change surgery systems, in order to incorporate online consultations throughout our working hours. We have previously given patients the option to email us or submit queries via the website but, in order to meet the requirements, we have now enabled an “Online consultation” facility via the website on the appointments page. Our surgery email also directs patients to this link in order to submit queries for a same day response. We are hoping that this system enables patients to have an alternative to telephoning the practice or popping in to surgery. We will be expanding this facility during November, to manage request for appointments via this method, which will allow patients to be seen appropriately for their clinical needs.

Covid and Influenza Autumn vaccination programme

There have been changes in eligibility this Autumn for the Covid vaccine which we have advertised over the last 2 newsletters. Flu vaccine eligibility is the same as usual (see criteria for both vaccines below). We have invited eligible patients to clinics at the surgery and are arranging home visits for housebound patients. We are still booking, so if you are eligible, please contact reception to book your vaccines.

Patients eligible for covid vaccine:

- All adults aged 75 years and over
- Persons aged 6 months and over who are immunosuppressed (more information around eligibility on the NHS website)

Patients eligible for flu vaccine:

Pregnant women and all eligible children will start from 1st September 2025.

For school aged cohorts, vaccination will be completed in schools.

All other adult flu cohorts will start from 1 October 2025:

- those aged 65 years and over
- those aged 18 years to under 65 years in clinical risk groups (more information around eligibility on the NHS website)
- those in long-stay residential care homes

- carers in receipt of carer's allowance, or those who are the main carer of an elderly or disabled person
- close contacts of immunocompromised individuals (more information about eligibility on the NHS website)
- frontline workers in a social care setting without an employer led occupational health scheme including those working for a registered residential care or nursing home, registered domiciliary care providers, voluntary managed hospice providers and those that are employed by those who receive direct payments (personal budgets) or Personal Health budgets, such as Personal NHS England

Surgery Friends Quiz night

We entered a team from the surgery and all had a very enjoyable evening raising funds for medical equipment. We are most grateful to the Friends of the Surgery for holding such events to raise donations for equipment not funded by the NHS.