**Lyme Bay Medical Practice**

Flu Vaccination Frequently Asked Questions

Where & When?

We are holding 2 flu clinics for **over 65’s only** at Woodmead Halls in Lyme Regis on Saturday 26th September and 17th October 2020 between 9 – 12.30pm & 1 – 4.30pm. (**Appointment ONLY)**

There will also be clinics held at Lyme Regis Medical Centre & Kent House for under 65’s in at risk categories

Who is currently eligible?

* Children aged 2 to 11 years old on 31 August 2020
* Everyone aged 65 and over (including those who will become 65 by 31 March 2021)
* Those aged from six months to less than 65 years of age in a clinical risk group
* Pregnant women
* Household contacts of those on the NHS Shielded Patient List or of immuno-compromised individuals where continuing close contact is unavoidable on most days
* People living in long-stay residential care homes or other long-stay care facilities
* People with qualifying caring responsibilities
* Health and social care staff employed by a registered care provider or by a voluntary managed hospice provider or through Direct Payments/Personal Health Budgets and are directly involved in the care of vulnerable patients or clients

Who may be eligible?

* Over 50s who are not in a clinical risk group may be offered immunisation later this year. This will be subject to sufficient vaccines being available. If you are in this group of patients, please do not contact us. We will notify you of our plans once the situation on vaccine availability is clear.

How do I book an appointment (over 65s only)?

Please book online or phone reception on 01297 445777 after 11.00am to book your appointment.

How do I book an appointment (under 65s)?

More information and booking instructions will follow for eligible patients. We do not vaccinate school age children (unless they are in an ‘at risk’ group). They will be vaccinated by the school nursing teams usually during the autumn term and they will contact you directly.

What can I do to assist?

* Come alone if possible.
* If you are able, please wear a face mask or face covering.
* Use hand sanitizer on arrival
* Queue in designated lines & maintain recommended social distancing
* It will help us if you wear clothing that gives easy access to your upper arm.
* We are trying to limit use of our toilets, so if possible, go before you leave home.
* Do not bring unnecessary bags or belongings into the building.

What if I have symptoms of covid?

Do not attend your appointment

* if you have any covid symptoms (temperature above normal
* a new continuous cough, a loss or change to your sense of taste or smell).

If you are able, cancel your appointment either online or by calling 01297 445777. When you have recovered and completed the required isolation period, please rebook your appointment.

Will I be able to park?

At full capacity, we will be vaccinating 24 patients every fifteen minutes. This will put pressure on parking spaces. If you have no mobility issues, we ask that you consider walking or parking nearby, this will leave parking spaces nearer the entrance available for those less able to walk.

How long will I wait?

You may have to queue outside the building so please come prepared for inclement weather. To avoid long queues, you should aim to arrive at the building entrance no more than five minutes before your appointment time. When in the queue please maintain social distancing. Whilst we aim to keep to schedule, we will give priority to those with a disability and invite them in on arrival (subject to capacity). This may mean a slight delay for some.

Will I be safe?

We are following all government advice to keep our patients and ourselves safe. We will be operating a one-way system through the building, with staff on hand to provide guidance and assistance. All staff will be wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for their role. Each clinician will complete the required cleaning after seeing each patient.

Are there any side effects?

Serious side effects are very rare. You may have a mild higher temperature and aching muscles for a couple of days after having the vaccine, and your arm may be a bit sore where you were injected.

 Do I have to pay?

No, providing you fall within one of the groups covered by the national flu immunisation programme.

I am housebound, what do I do?

Please phone reception on 01297 445777 after 11am and they will make arrangements.

Am I a carer?

If you are in receipt of a carer’s allowance or are the main carer of an older or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if their carer falls ill, then you have caring responsibilities within the definition of the flu campaign and qualify for vaccination.

Where can I find further information?

For more information visit: www.nhs.uk/flujab