

# THE ARLINGTON ROAD MEDICAL PRACTICE NEWSLETTER



January 2021



## Update on the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme

The Arlington Road is one of 5 GP Practices in the ALPS Group of GP Practices (Arlington Road, Lighthouse, Park Practice, Seaside Medical Centre and Grove Road Surgery). Other GP Practices in the Eastbourne area are part of other Primary Care Networks.

The ALPS Group of GP Practices are offering vaccines to our patient population through a GP Federation – South Downs Health and Care (SDHC).

Presently this is based at Hampden Park surgery in Eastbourne but we are hoping to secure a larger vaccination venue in the future.

The Government has announced that vaccines are to be given to the most vulnerable first, as set out in **a list of nine high-priority groups**, as listed below covering around 30 million people nationwide.

**Those in red are the immediate priority:**

1. Residents in care homes for older adults and their carers
2. 80-year-olds and over and frontline health and social care workers
3. 75-year-olds and over
4. 70-year-olds and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals
5. 65-year-olds and over
6. 16- to 64-year-olds with serious underlying health conditions
7. 60-year-olds and over
8. 55-year-olds and over
9. 50-year-olds and over

Supply of the vaccine is currently limited and it will take some time before regular vaccine deliveries are made to the SDHC Federation, so please be patient.

Continued overleaf

**SDHC will contact you when they receive a delivery and advise you when your vaccine will be available.** You will be contacted in priority order and this includes housebound patients.

**W**e are doing everything we can to vaccinate as many people, in the high risk groups, as possible by the middle of February. The roll out of vaccinations to Care home staff and residents is starting from 7<sup>th</sup> January.

Your patience while we work through this challenge is very much appreciated.

**W**e would also politely ask you not to contact your GP Practice about the Covid vaccinations as we need their telephone lines to be kept open for patients who need medical help and support.

Many thanks

Arlington Road Medical Practice.



# Scam Alert!

**P**lease be aware that an SMS message scam has begun circulating.

**T**he message appears to be from the NHS telling the patient that they have been identified as being eligible to apply for their Covid-19 vaccination. The message contains a link for an application form. What looks like an NHS screen appears - including the NHS logo - telling the patient to have their debit card ready, including their sort code, account number and long card number. It claims these will not be used to take a payment but to verify your address with your bank.

**D**o not respond to any such messages. The NHS would never need to verify your identify with your bank details. Please share this scam information with your family and friends, especially those who may be vulnerable.

HM Government

**CORONAVIRUS**

**STAY HOME TO SAVE LIVES**

The new COVID-19 variant is spreading fast. We all need to stay home.

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

NHS