

HILLSBOROUGH MEDICAL PRACTICE FLU VACCINATION SEASON NEWSLETTER 2017

✳ WE ARE OFFERING OUR NORMAL FLU VACCINATION SERVICE TO ALL OUR PATIENTS OVER 65 YEARS AND TO ALL OTHER PATIENTS IN THE AT RISK GROUPS (see below) EXCEPT PRIMARY 1-7 PUPILS WHO WILL BE OFFERED THE VACCINATION BY THE SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM(see overleaf).

✳ DURING OCTOBER WE WILL ALSO BE OFFERING A SHINGLES VACCINE TO PATIENTS AGED 70 AND 78 ON 1.09.2017. IT CAN BE GIVEN AT THE SAME TIME AS THE FLU VACCINATION BUT WE PREFER TO GIVE IT SEPERATELY.

✳ WE WILL BE OFFERING THE FLU VACCINE TO ALL CHILDREN BORN BETWEEN 2.07.2013 TO 1.09.2015. THIS WILL BE IN THE FORM OF A NASAL SPRAY (In most cases).

OUR MAIN FLU CLINIC WILL BE ON SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2017, WE WILL BE SENDING TEXT MESSAGES/ LETTERS OUT TO ELIGIBLE PATIENTS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

THE 'AT RISK' GROUPS WE ARE VACCINATING THIS YEAR ARE:

- ↳ All children 2-3 years and adults 65 and over
- ↳ Patients with Chronic Respiratory Diseases – excluding patients with Asthma unless they are taking continuous doses of steroid tablets or steroid inhalers
- ↳ Patients with Chronic Heart Disease
- ↳ Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease
- ↳ Patients with Chronic Liver Disease
- ↳ Patients with Chronic Neurological Disease
- ↳ Patients with Diabetes
- ↳ Patients who are immunosuppressed
- ↳ All pregnant women at any stage of their pregnancy
- ↳ Patients living in residential or care homes, or attending special schools and day centres
- ↳ Patients who are registered with the Practice as carers
- ↳ Patients who are Morbidly Obese (i.e. BMI >40)



Any child over 6 months and under 9 years in a 'clinically at risk group' who is having the vaccination for the 1st time this year here or even in school will need to come back here for a 2nd dose after 4-6 weeks. Please speak to **Denise** to make the appointment for 2nd dose.

If you do not fall into any medical categories, but feel that you should have the vaccine (e.g. for travel, work or family commitments) you can ask for a prescription for the vaccine. The vaccine must remain chilled so please collect it from the pharmacy on your way here.

If you have an urgent medical need for an early vaccine, (e.g. patients about to start chemotherapy) please contact **Denise** or speak to your Doctor.

Patients who have a **confirmed** anaphylactic reaction to eggs or an egg allergy with uncontrolled asthma should speak to their Doctor about alternative arrangements. Please note because of very low Ovalbumin contents the regular flu vaccine can be given to most patients with an egg allergy.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE VACCINATION PROGRAMME, PLEASE CALL DENISE ON 028 9268 0812. THE TEXT MESSAGES/LETTERS WILL BE SENT OUT AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER SO PLEASE WAIT UNTIL THEN BEFORE TELEPHONING.

As in previous years, patients attending clinics here will be offered the vaccination at their appointment. We will be vaccinating approximately 3500 patients during the flu season so please be patient during these clinics as some patients may be receiving more than one vaccine.

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE SEASONAL FLU PROGRAMME CAN BE FOUND ON THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

www.publichealth.hscni.net

www.fluawareni.info

Or you can collect a leaflet at the Health Centre

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WE ARE SENDING TEXT MESSAGE REMINDERS AND INVITATIONS TO OUR PATIENTS ABOUT APPOINTMENTS AND CLINICS WE ARE HAVING AT THE PRACTICE. TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE KEPT UP TO DATE PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT MOBILE PHONE NUMBER. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS TEAR OFF STRIP AND HAND IT IN AT RECEPTION.

NAME: _____

D.O.B: _____

MOBILE NUMBER: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION