

COVID update - Filey Surgery

Member practice of Filey & Scarborough Primary Care Network

(Filey, Scarborough Medical Group, Hunmanby and Hackness Road surgeries working together)

Last week saw Filey & Scarborough PCN vaccinate its 15,000th patient, a huge achievement due to the continued fabulous work of our vaccinators, staff and volunteers.

Starting from next week we will see increased deliveries of vaccines to enable us to vaccinate more patients for their 1st dose and to continue to give patients their second dose as it becomes due. We will use a mixture of methods to contact patients, usually by text message or phone call. Please be aware that these calls for making appointments take a lot of surgery staff time and therefore please do not worry if you are not contacted straight away. We are also governed by the amount of vaccines delivered and when these will arrive – we often have very little warning of delivery dates and changes to the amounts.

We are still working through the cohorts of patients aged over 60 and those aged over 16 with underlying health conditions but hope to have invited all these patients by the end of this week.

Once we have completed these invitations we can then move on to the cohort of patients aged 55-59. These patients will have received a letter from the government to invite them to attend a Mass Vaccination Service at York, Hull or Middlesbrough, however if you prefer to attend the Scarborough Rugby Club, when we have the vaccines in the next couple of weeks, we will text message or phone you to invite you for an appointment (when you receive a text message please choose option 5 to access our staff who are booking these).

NHS England and North Yorkshire CCG govern the cohorts of patients we can invite so if you are not in the current groups of patients we are booking, (aged over 55), please do not phone the surgery as we are unable at the moment to offer you an appointment at this time, we will update as soon as we can offer appointments to additional cohorts. Please note that you cannot use the National Booking System to book into our local vaccination service, and that if you have your 1st dose at a Mass Vaccination Centre you will be required to attend the same site when your 2nd dose is due (11-12 weeks after your 1st dose).

Please note that the majority of our clinics will be held at Scarborough Rugby Club as we do not have the physical space to hold large clinics at Filey Surgery and to ensure social distancing. If you have trouble getting transport to the Rugby Club you can contact Age Concern on 01723 379058.

Our teams are still ensuring that our housebound patients receive their vaccines and we are soon to start visiting our care homes again to vaccinate our residents with their 2nd dose.

I'm sure you will appreciate that this national vaccination programme is taking a lot of staff time and resource from the practice, however we are very proud to be able to contribute to ensuring our patients receive this vital immunisation against Coronavirus. We, as a practice and PCN, have confirmed that we are willing to continue with the vaccination program throughout the summer months until all eligible patients have been invited. This will continue to stretch the resources that we have in our practices and we hope that you will support us in this and where possible use a range of health services to access health care and advice. As well as our pharmacy colleagues there are several services where patients can self-refer for assistance, please see our website leaflets for information and contact details <https://www.fileysurgery.co.uk/page1.aspx?p=22>.