

Long Furlong Medical Centre

Flu Vaccination Information

September 2023

Welcome to the Long Furlong Newsletter

Please tell us if you have any feedback about this newsletter or ideas for content in the next issue by emailing debbie.major@nhs.net

Accurx Patient Triage

On Monday 7th August eConsult and telephone bookings were replaced with an online triage form called Accurx. This is to triage all GP appointments and to assist you with medical and administrative queries. All appointments with the Nurse or HCA can still be booked by telephone.

The initial feedback we have received from both patients and staff has been positive.

A patient survey will be sent in the next few weeks which will allow you to provide us with any feedback regarding the new appointments system.

Flu Vaccination Information 2023

At Risk Groups

Those in the risk groups below are more likely to develop potentially serious complications of flu, such as pneumonia so it is recommended they have a flu vaccine every year to protect them:

- Age Over 65 (including those who will be 65 by 31 March 2024)
- Pregnant women
- Under 65 with an underlying chronic disease:
 - Respiratory disease including severe asthma or COPD
 - Heart Disease
 - Kidney Disease
 - Liver Disease
 - Neurological Disease
 - Spleen dysfunction or no spleen
 - Weakened immune system due to disease or drug treatment
 - If you are in receipt of a Carer's Allowance
 - Those living with anyone with a weakened immune system
- Health & Social Care Workers who are registered patients at the practice who are employed by a registered residential / nursing home or registered domiciliary care provider and health and care staff employed by a voluntary managed hospice provider who are directly involved in the care of vulnerable patients / clients aged 65 yrs+ who are risk from exposure to influenza.

Children's Flu Information

All children aged 2 and 3 years on 31 August 2023 - Will receive the nasal vaccine at the GP surgery.

School-aged children (from Reception - Year 11) - Will receive the nasal vaccine at school this year.

FLU CLINIC DATES & BOOKING 2023

Appointments for all clinics can be booked online via **Patient Access**

ADULT'S AGED 65 AND OVER FLU VACCINE CLINICS

Where: at the surgery on

Tuesday 10th October
Thursday 12th October
Saturday 14th October
Tuesday 17th October

More clinics for adults & children will be offered as the vaccines become available. Please check our website for regular updates.

www.longfurlongmedicalcentre.co.uk

CHILDREN'S NASAL FLU VACCINE CLINIC

Where: at the surgery on

Thursday 21st September
Friday 22nd September
Tuesday 26th September
Tuesday 24th October

Covid Vaccinations

The COVID-19 vaccine will be offered this autumn to people aged 65 and over, residents in care homes for older people, anyone aged 6 months and over in a clinical risk group, and health and social care staff. Appointments will be available from the [National Booking Service](#) on 18th September.

We are not holding clinics at the surgery and our staff will not be able to give you additional information. Please contact 119 if you have any Covid queries. A GOV.UK guide to the COVID-19 autumn programme can be found [here](#).

Your Patient Participation Group

Who We Are

Your Patient Participation Group (PPG) presently consists of 15 patients.

11 are able to attend our quarterly, on-line "Teams" Meetings, 4 are email only members.

All are volunteers, who support and influence healthcare at Long Furlong Surgery by offering the patient's perspective.

At our meetings we are joined by a GP Partner and the Practice Manager

What We Do

Our purpose is:

- To provide a patient perspective of the practice
- To gather views and feedback from patients
- To help improve the experience of patients attending the surgery.
- To improve communication through the practice website as well as through noticeboards, emails, texts and social media.
- To share ideas to help patients to take more responsibility for their own health and to help improve the services offered by the practice.
- To act as a representative group that can be called upon to influence the local provision of health and social care.

What the PPG Doesn't Do

- We do not deal with personal medical issues or complaints, as there are already well-established procedures that deal with these.
- What commitment is required on your part if you would like to join?
- We meet online quarterly and that meeting takes up to 90 minutes.
- We ask you to give your views about issues at the practice and possibly upcoming changes at the meeting or by email.
- We have a low volume of emails with an occasional flurry if there is an important issue to discuss.
- In summary, it is a low time commitment with occasional emails and if you can attend a quarterly meeting.
- It is important to mention that we have recently introduced an occasional face-to-face social meeting for coffee.

How can you become a member?

All patients of Long Furlong Surgery are able to become members of the Patient Participation Group. There is no membership or joining fee and no training is required. If you wish to:

- Join us, give us your views/feedback or just find out more.

Please email the PPG at bobicb-ox.ppg.longfurlongmedicalcentre@nhs.net or leave your details at reception for the attention of the PPG Secretary.

We are very keen to recruit younger patients and patients with young families.

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