

Swine Flu Vaccination Update (16th November 2009)

We have now started the process of calling patients into the Practice for their Swine Flu Vaccinations. A number of special Swine Flu Vaccinations Clinics have now been arranged to vaccinate the following groups of patients:

1. Patients aged 6 months to 65 years in a current seasonal flu at risk group (e.g. asthmatics, people with heart problems)
2. Pregnant women
3. Patients with immunosuppressant conditions (e.g. Cancer and HIV) and household contacts of these patients who are registered with this practice.
4. Patients over 65 years of age in a current seasonal flu at risk group.

There are current no plans to vaccinate patients who do not fall into one of the groups listed above. However, this situation may change as more vaccines become available.

If you are allergic to eggs or egg products and are in one of the four groups above, please contact the Practice as soon as possible. We need to make arrangements for you to receive an alternative vaccine.

If you are eligible for vaccination, you should receive a letter inviting you to attend a clinic by **Wednesday 25th November 2009**. If you have not received a letter by this date, please contact the Practice.

It is difficult to determine what the uptake will be for the Swine Flu Vaccine will be and the exact number of appointments that we will need. However, we are aiming to vaccinate as many eligible patients as we can before Christmas. If necessary, we will be increasing the number of Swine Flu Clinics that we are arranging.

If you would like more information about the Swine Flu Vaccination, please collect a leaflet from our reception or visit www.nhs.uk . Please contact the Practice if you have mobility problems and would like a leaflet sending to you.

We are always very busy at this time of year and the number of telephone calls which we receive at the practice increases significantly. Therefore, it would be appreciated if any telephone calls about Swine Flu Vaccinations could be made **after 10.30hrs** in the morning. This will help patients with urgent medical problems who are trying to get through to the practice and will help our administrative team too. Thank you.