



Flu 2020: Firsway Health Centre Flu Plan

This year we have to factor in social distancing into our flu vaccination schedule and so we are introducing new systems to keep everyone safe. There will be three main Saturday flu clinics this year and patients will be given an appointment window within which they must attend on a given date. There will then be appointments during normal practice opening hours that all patients MUST pre-book in advance.



Who should get the flu vaccine?

This year the flu vaccine is being offered on the NHS to:

- adults 65 and over (including anyone who will be 65 by the 31st March 2021)
- people with certain medical conditions (including children in at-risk groups from 6 months of age)
- pregnant women
- CARERS - including people living with someone who's at high risk from coronavirus (on the NHS shielded patient list)
- children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2020 (*vaccine should be available from mid-Sept*)
- children in primary school (these vaccines are available via the school ONLY)
- children in year 7 (secondary school)(these vaccines are available via the school ONLY)
- frontline health or social care workers



I am aged 50-64, am I also now eligible?

Later in the year, the flu vaccine is expected to be able to be given to people aged 50 to 64.

More information will be available to the 50-64 'newly eligible' patients later in the autumn and until then, appointments are only being arranged for those patients who were already eligible. We have to prioritise vaccine stock for the most vulnerable patients first.

- If you're aged 50 to 64 but also in another at-risk group, you should await your invitation letter.
- If you're aged 50 to 64 and were **not already** in an at risk group, please ensure the practice has a correct mobile number for you, as details will be sent by text about the availability of additional vaccines later in the season once vaccine supplies have been supplied from the NHS. *Do not contact us now!*



When do the flu clinics start?

The pre-booked clinics will be scheduled to start after the 3 main Saturday clinics and upon receipt of vaccinations. The first clinic is planned for 19 September 2020.

How to decline:

If you already know that you don't want a flu vaccine at all please tell us. You can do this via telephone or email if that's easier so that your vaccine can be offered to someone else who needs it. This year more than ever, this is very important as vaccine supplies are expected to be in extremely high demand.

Email: trccg.firsway.enquiries@nhs.net



Come ready for your vaccination:



The red marks will target an intramuscular injection

We need to access the top muscle of your arm
Please wear a short sleeve top that can easily be rolled and have arm ready before entering the room.

Flu 2020: Frequently Asked Questions

When I'm Sixty-Four.

I am almost 65, am I eligible now?

Yes. As with previous years, anyone who will be 65 years old by the 31st March 2021 will be entitled to receive a flu vaccine from the 65+ supply even before they physically turn 65.



Can I have my flu vaccine when I am coming up the surgery for another medical reason?

- Not yet but this may change when we have completed the main flu clinics.
- From end November (we believe) for the newly eligible 50-64 year olds, awaiting further guidance.



Children should book to attend an appointment at the surgery

We will have a number of flu appointments at the practice which will be reserved for at-risk children. The vaccine should be available from mid-Sept, we will text or write to you once delivery is confirmed. If your child is eligible to have a vaccination at school, but are not otherwise in another at risk group, they should have their vaccine at school, not at the practice.



Home visits are available - for medically housebound patients only

We will continue to offer essential home visits for very frail patients to have their flu vaccinations at home and for those living in care homes. Home visit slots are very limited and so are strictly reserved only for those who physically couldn't get into a car to attend an appointment with help from a friend, family or a taxi. These appointments will not be arranged until after the end of October until we have completed the face to face flu clinics.