

HUCCLECOTE SURGERY

NEWSLETTER

August / September / October 2024

Tel: 01452 617295 Email: hucclecotesurgery@nhs.net Website: www.hucclecotesurgery.co.uk



FLU / COVID19 AUTUMN PROGRAMME



All patients who are eligible will be invited for their flu & Covid 19 vaccine during August.

Flu vaccines cost the surgery in the region of £36,000 per year, so please support your surgery and book your flu appointment today!

FLU & COVID 19 CLINICAL RISK GROUPS AND OTHER RISK GROUPS THAT WILL BE ADMINISTERED AT THE SURGERY FOR PATIENTS:

- **Chronic respiratory disease:** Asthma that requires continuous or repeated use of inhaled or systemic steroids or with previous exacerbations requiring hospital admission. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) including chronic bronchitis and emphysema; bronchiectasis, cystic fibrosis, interstitial lung fibrosis, pneumoconiosis and bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD). Children who have previously been admitted to hospital for lower respiratory tract disease.
- **Chronic heart disease:** and vascular disease Congenital heart disease, hypertension with cardiac complications, chronic heart failure, individuals requiring regular medication and/or follow-up for ischaemic heart disease. This includes individuals with atrial fibrillation, peripheral vascular disease or a history of venous thromboembolism.
- **Chronic kidney disease:** Chronic kidney disease at stage 3, 4 or 5, chronic kidney failure, nephrotic syndrome, kidney transplantation.
- **Chronic liver disease:** Cirrhosis, biliary atresia, chronic hepatitis.
- **Chronic neurological disease:** Stroke, transient ischaemic attack (TIA). Conditions in which respiratory function may be compromised due to neurological or neuromuscular disease (for example polio syndrome sufferers). Clinicians should offer immunisation, based on individual assessment, to clinically vulnerable individuals including those with cerebral palsy, severe or profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD), Down's syndrome, multiple sclerosis, dementia, Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease and related or similar conditions; or hereditary and degenerative disease of the nervous system or muscles; or severe neurological disability.

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- **Diabetes and adrenal insufficiency:** Type 1 diabetes, type 2 diabetes requiring insulin or oral hypoglycaemic drugs, diet-controlled diabetes. Addison's disease, secondary or tertiary adrenal insufficiency requiring steroid replacement.
- **Immunosuppression:** Immunosuppression due to disease or treatment, including patients undergoing chemotherapy leading to immunosuppression, patients undergoing radical radiotherapy, solid organ transplant recipients, bone marrow or stem cell transplant recipients, people living with HIV (at all stages), multiple myeloma or genetic disorders affecting the immune system (for example IRAK-4, NEMO, complement disorder, SCID). Individuals who are receiving immunosuppressive or immunomodulating biological therapy including, but not limited to, anti-TNF- alemtuzumab, ofatumumab, rituximab, patients receiving protein kinase inhibitors or PARP inhibitors, and individuals treated with steroid sparing agents such as cyclophosphamide and mycophenolate mofetil. Individuals treated with or likely to be treated with systemic steroids for more than a month at a dose equivalent to prednisolone at 20mg or more per day (any age), or for children under 20kg, a dose of 1mg or more per kg per day. Anyone with a history of haematological malignancy, including leukaemia, lymphoma, and myeloma and those with systemic lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis, and psoriasis who may require long term immunosuppressive treatments. Some immunocompromised patients may have a suboptimal immunological response to the vaccine.
- **Asplenia or dysfunction of the spleen:** This also includes conditions such as homozygous sickle cell disease, hereditary spherocytosis, thalassemia major and coeliac syndrome that may lead to splenic dysfunction.
- **Morbid obesity:** Adults with a Body Mass Index ≥ 40 kg/m².
- **Pregnant women:** Pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy.
- **Household contacts of people with immunosuppression:** Individuals who expect to share living accommodation on most days (and therefore for whom continuing close contact is unavoidable) with individuals who are immunosuppressed.
- **Carers:** Those who are eligible for a carer's allowance, or those who are the sole or primary carer of an elderly or disabled person whose welfare may be at risk if the carer falls ill.
- **Children:** All children aged 2 or 3 years on 31st August 2024.
- **Frontline healthcare workers:** Those without a workplace occupational health scheme.

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NEW RSV VACCINE

From 1 September 2024, those who turn 75 and those age 75-79 will be eligible for a free vaccine to protect them from Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

RSV is an infectious disease of the airways and lungs. RSV infection often causes symptoms similar to a cold, including:

- Cough
- Sore throat
- Sneezing
- A runny or blocked nose

It can also make you become wheezy or short of breath and lead to pneumonia and other life-threatening conditions. There is no specific treatment, and most infections will get better by themselves. However, every year thousands of older adults need hospital care for RSV, and some will die. RSV can be more severe in people with medical conditions such as heart or lung disease or a weakened immune system.

Patients who turn 75 during 2024/25 will be invited in for their vaccine the month they turn 75.

Patients who are already 75-79, we will be inviting you for your RSV vaccine shortly.



STAFF NEWS

We welcome the following new staff to the surgery:

- Dr Mark Gerlis – Registrar for a 6 month placement
- Dr Luara Gray – Registrar for a 12 month placement.
- Bridget – Business Support Administrator
- Chelsea – Patient Advisor
- Beth – Occupational Therapist who will work with our Living Well Team.
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Sadly, we say goodbye to Dawn (Respiratory Nurse) at the end of August. We are currently recruiting for Dawn's replacement so unfortunately there will be a delay for asthma, COPD and Broncho reviews. Your support and understanding is very much appreciated.

We are also currently recruiting for an afternoon Patient Advisor.

ROUTINE APPOINTMENTS

We have listened to patient feedback and our routine GP appointments will be opening up at 1.15pm everyday wef 1st September 2024.

The reason why we ask patients to book a routine appointment at this time is so that we can effectively manage the incoming telephone traffic, so patients are not waiting in a long queue.

We also, embargo our routine GP appointments to 10 working days, this is to manage appointment waiting times. At the time of typing this newsletter, I am pleased to announce that there are routine GP appointments available within 7 working days 😊

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WAYS TO CONTACT THE SURGERY

8.00am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday

☎ 01452 617295



hucclecotesurgery@nhs.net

📄 www.hucclecotesurgery.co.uk Or in person

We request patients contact us at the following times for GP appointments:

- 8.00am to 11.30am Urgent medical issues & home visit requests
for housebound patients
- 11.00am to 1.00pm Test results
(Tuesday to Friday)
- 1.15pm * to 6.00pm To book routine GP appointments
- 8.00am to 4.00pm Urine/stool samples to be dropped off at reception desk

WEF 1 September * the routine appointments will open from 1.15pm instead of 2.00pm

Please be aware prescription requests cannot be taken over the telephone. Easiest way to request repeat prescriptions in to sign up to NHS APP (visit: [NHS App and your NHS account - NHS](#) (www.nhs.uk) or SystmOne online (pop into reception and ask)

The surgery is closed on Bank Holiday's:
Monday 26th August
Wednesday 25th December
Thursday 26th December

SURGERY WALK AND TALK

Come and join the surgery Walk and Talk on 1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Start @ 9.45am outside St. Lawrence C of E Church, 32 Church Lane, GL4 3JB.

All very welcome - no need to book, just turn up!



Please note the surgery is closed every 3rd Wednesday afternoon of the month for important staff training.

We are therefore closed on:

- 21st August from 1.00pm
- 18th September from 1.00pm
- 16th October from 1.00pm
- 20th November from 1.00pm
- 18th December from 1.00pm

GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S BIG INFORMATION DAY

Thursday 26th September 2024
1.00pm – 3.00pm
Longfield Hospice,
Minchinhampton, GL5 2PQ

Free event – an opportunity to find out about the various services & support on offer within Gloucestershire.

More info: longfield.org.uk/big-information-day