

Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice Newsletter August 2020

As we all continue to adapt to new ways of living, we are now able to update you on NHS England's plan for GP services over the coming months, published on 31st July 2020. Covid-19 remains in general circulation with localised outbreaks likely to occur.

The NHS priorities are

- To accelerate the return to near-normal levels of non Covid-19 services
- Prepare for winter demand pressures
- Do the above using lessons learned from the first Covid-19 peak, using the beneficial changes and tackling challenges such as supporting NHS staff, acting on inequalities and prevention.

In Primary Care the following are NHS priorities and we continue to assess patients who are acutely unwell through our daily triage system.

- cancer services
- immunisations including an expanded flu vaccine campaign
- cervical screening
- medication reviews
- mental health services
- services for those with Learning Disabilities
- health checks for people over 75yrs old

We continue to offer face to face appointments where a telephone, video or on line consultation is not suitable.

We are aiming to reintroduce some services at Broadchalke in October, including most of our flu clinics. The flu clinics this year will be different to enable social distancing and robust infection control measures. Appointments will be sent out in advance to eligible patients and can be rearranged if it is not possible to make that appointment. We are also finalising plans for a drive-thru flu clinic for some patients.

We are delighted to announce that during Lock down we have achieved Wiltshire Council's Platinum award for carers. We wish to thank everyone who is a carer for all that they do to support those they care for. We are also incredibly grateful to the volunteer groups who have supported the practice during the pandemic, particularly with the impact on the Broadchalke site. We are in consultation with those on the Broadchalke side to plan the support for patients whilst the site is not fully operational.

Finally, we are in the planning stage of an innovative medication collection system operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the Sixpenny Handley site.