



## Newent Doctors Practice

### Flu Vaccination Programme 2020-21 Frequently Asked Questions



#### 'WHY AM I BEING ASKED TO WAIT?'

➤ **I am in one of the listed groups. Why am I being asked to wait to have my flu vaccine?**

Overall there is no shortage of flu vaccine with enough ordered to vaccinate 30 million people. However, it is usual for manufacturers to stagger deliveries of vaccine so you may have to wait to receive your vaccination. Our first delivery arrived at the surgery at the end of September and we held our first flu clinics at Newent Community School. Clinics will continue to be offered at the practice throughout the autumn, in line with our vaccine deliveries. This season, early demand for flu vaccine has been higher than usual due to concerns about the coronavirus pandemic. This means that we may have to ask people to wait until we receive further deliveries.

➤ **Why are some people still being offered the vaccine and not others?**

There are several types of flu vaccines available. You will be offered one that is recommended for you based on your age. This means some people will be offered a flu vaccine that is in stock while others, who need a different type of vaccine, may have to wait.

➤ **Wouldn't it be better to have any type of flu vaccine rather than wait?**

Providers of flu vaccination services are required to offer the vaccine that is most effective for you. It is better to wait to get the right vaccine so that you get the most benefit from it.

➤ **When do you need to have a flu vaccination for it to offer protection?**

It is best to have the vaccine before flu starts to circulate, which is usually from December onwards. But if it is later in the year than this, it is still worth having. The priority this season is to vaccinate those who are most at risk from flu first, including anyone who has a health condition that makes them more at risk from flu.

Other healthy 50 to 64 year olds will be offered the vaccine later in the season when additional supply becomes available.

➤ **What should I do now?**

If you have not yet had your flu vaccination and you are over 65 or are aged between 18-64 years old and have an underlying health condition e.g. heart, kidney, liver, lung or neurological disease, diabetics, pregnant women, or you are a carer, please call the practice.

**Please call after 11.00am to book an appointment 01531 820689**

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