



CHEADLE PRIMARY CARE NETWORK

Cheadle Medical Practice

Gatley Medical Practice

Heald Green Health Centre 1

Heald Green Health Centre 2

17 December 2020

Dear Patient,

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

As part of the NHS COVID vaccine programme, our four GP practices in Cheadle Primary Care Network, namely Cheadle Medical Practice, Gatley Medical Centre and Heald Green Health Centre 1 & Heald Green Health Centre 2, are working closely together to deliver this vaccine to our patients.

We will be running a joint vaccine clinic at Heald Green Village Hall and there is an immense amount of work going on at present, to set this up.

We hope to start our clinics as soon as we get a delivery of vaccines (hopefully in the next 2-3 weeks). We are expecting a week's notice of our first delivery. From this point we have less than four days to then deliver all the doses.

To help us with this huge logistical challenge, we would be grateful if you could kindly consider the following:

- This is the largest vaccination programme ever seen and so it is likely that capacity at all our GP practices will be reduced as staff are diverted towards the vaccination programme. Your understanding and support regarding our ability to deal with non-urgent medical issues is much appreciated.
- The government has laid out **strict** criteria for the priority groups and the order in which people will become eligible for the vaccine, this is primarily based on age.
- For more information about the vaccine go to www.nhs.uk/covid-vaccination. The Stockport phone line for queries about the vaccine is **0161-426-9910**.
- Please ensure we have an up to date mobile number that we can contact you on. Text messages are the quickest way to send information out in such a tight timescale. If you do not have a mobile we will call at home to arrange an appointment.
- You will be asked to book two appointments for your vaccines, at least 21 days apart.
- We are advised that the vaccine cannot be transported outside our designated clinic site once it is delivered. Therefore, we are currently unable to vaccinate patients in their own home. This will mean a delay in receiving the vaccine for those who are housebound until a solution is found. We would therefore ask, if you are able, you try and get down to the Village Hall.
- Please note, appointments will only be made for those who receive an invite or who are contacted directly by the surgery.

We feel excited and privileged to be in a position to support our local community in starting to emerge from this pandemic.

Thank you for your ongoing support, understanding and patience during these difficult times.

Kind regards

The Practices of Cheadle Primary Care Network