



November 2021 - Surgery Newsletter



UPDATE ON JO'S MARATHON CHALLENGE

I am very pleased to let you now that Jo, one of our Practice Nurses who I wrote about in the Newsletter last month completed the London Marathon on the 3 October 2021 in five and a half hours. All her colleagues are extremely proud of her achievement.

WINTER DEMAND – Help us to help you!

As we head into winter, demand for our services usually increases substantially. We really do need all of our patients to consider whether they really need to see a doctor before calling and consider using other local services such as your local pharmacy, which might be more appropriate. Of course if you consider your problem is urgent we are always here to help and our daily on call doctor triage system will ensure you are contacted by a clinician in a timely manner.

UPDATE ON THE COVID-19 BOOSTER/FLU VACCINATIONS

I am very pleased to let you know that we started our Covid-19 booster vaccination clinics for our patients on Saturday, 25 September 2021. Patients have to wait 6 months from their last (2nd) Covid vaccination before they are able to have their booster vaccination. The only exception to this is for patients who are immunosuppressed. Patients will be invited by text or telephone when they are due to have their Covid booster and this will be carried out at the Surgery in one of our Clinics on a Saturday morning. Although we have had delays with delivery of our flu vaccination if this is available it will be given at the same time as the Covid booster. Flu clinics will also be running for patients just needing their flu jab and again they will be contacted by text or telephone to book this.

MEDICATION GIVEN BY THE HOSPITAL

If you attend the hospital for an appointment and are given a prescription to collect from the hospital pharmacy please ensure you do collect your medication from the hospital rather than coming back to the Surgery and requesting an urgent prescription from the doctor. Until we have received written notification that someone has had their medication changed or a new item started by the hospital our doctors are unable to prescribe this for you. By collecting your prescription from the hospital pharmacy it will mean there will not be a delay in starting medication.

PRESCRIPTION REQUESTS

Please help our prescription clerks by remembering to order your medication at least 3 working days in advance of you needing this. We are happy for patients to put in their prescription requests up to 10 days before they are due to start their next lot of medication.

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP – MEETINGS RESTARTING

The Patient Participation Group will be holding a meeting at Great Bentley Village Hall on Thursday, 18 November 2021 at 6.30 pm for the first time since the start of the pandemic.

Sue Mitson – Operations Manager