



Newsletter: Autumn Issue 2020

HOB News

Flu Vaccinations

Please call **01225 982000** **ONLY** to book, the line will be open between **10:00am - 2:00pm Mon - Fri.**

[ELIGIBILITY FOR FLU VACCINATIONS](#)

(At risk group will ONLY be eligible, if you have been contacted via the Surgery)

- The following people are eligible for the vaccine:
- People aged 65 years and over
- People aged from 6 months to less than 65 years in clinical risk group
- People on the Learning Disability register
- People living in residential care homes or other long stay care facilities
- People in receipt of a carer's allowance or is a main carer of an older or disable person
- Household contacts of those on the NHS Shielded Patient List
- Health and social care staff employed by a registered residential care/nursing home

Statement from Public Health England: We aim to further extend the vaccine programme in November and December to include the 50-64 year old age group subject to vaccine supply. This extension is being phased to allow you to prioritise those in at risk groups first. Providers will be given notice in order to have services in place for any additional cohorts later in the season

PLEASE BE AWARE TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING OUR COVID PROCEDURE WHEN ARRIVING AND PLEASE WEAR FACEMASKS AT ALL TIMES WITHIN THE SURGERY

Appointment System - We have listened

We are delighted to inform you that after taking into account how strongly some of our patients felt regarding the new appointment system we are going to stop this system and change how patients originally booked appointments.

Of course due to the current pandemic we still do not want to encourage patients to walk into the surgery and the initial contact with a GP will be done via a telephone call but you will be able to book in advance for these and we will release appointments at 8.00am & 2.00pm to make it easier for you to telephone us and speak to a receptionist.

Further to this from the 1st October you will be able to book telephone appointments in advance via our online service.

Further information about this change will be added from 1st October.

Telephone Triage Appointments

If you have a medical problem please ring us in the usual way and the receptionist will take your name, best telephone number to contact you, and ask you in confidence a brief description of your symptoms.

The doctor will telephone you to discuss your medical issue, it would help us greatly if you use one appointment for one problem. If it is felt that you need to be seen for a face to face appointment the Doctor will arrange this for you. Usually this will be the same day, but you can ask for a later day if this is more convenient e.g. to fit around work/allow time to arrange transport to the surgery.

The Doctor will attempt to call you 3 times. If you are unable to answer your phone on 3 occasions, your telephone appointment will be marked as DNA (Did not attend) and you will need to call again and make another appointment. Please remember if you have given a mobile number for the Doctor to call you please keep your phone charged and in range.

Farewells and New Beginnings

We would just like to wish a fond farewell to Dr Jonathan Hamling, Dr Claire Quiggin & Dr Marshall who i think we can all agree by saying they will be missed by both colleagues and patients.

A Heart Of Bath welcome to:



Dr Rob
Jameson



Dr Venessa
Jessop



Dr Matt
Thomas



Dr Lucy Radevsky



Dr Alice Pembridge

Who will be joining our team of Doctors here at Heart Of Bath.

Clinical Research -

Heart of Bath Research Team are prioritising COVID-19 research.

The following studies are currently open for recruitment:

PRINCIPLE Study for over 50's with COVID-19 symptoms - patients can check if they are eligible on the principletrial.org website.

We are also looking for patients to take part in:

SANTORINI Study is a registry for patients being treated for high cholesterol (who have had a recent cholesterol test).

GEKO Study for patients with a venous leg ulcer – potential new treatment device.

Email trials.oldfield@nhs.net or call 01225 423250 to express an interest.

Studies coming soon:

Virus Watch – household testing for COVID-19
VitaDEX, is an upcoming Bath University study about the effects of Vitamin D in overweight people.

Is our research safe and ethical?

All our research studies have been approved by the appropriate authorities and our Research staff and doctors are fully qualified and trained. Some of our studies only involve gathering information, however if a medicinal product is offered the potential risks and benefits will be explained by our doctors and nurses verbally and in writing so that patients have plenty of time to decide if they want to take part.

See our website page for updates

<https://heartofbath.com/practice-info/research>

Remember, Remember...

Just a polite reminder that when attending an appointment within the surgery if you could wear a face covering for the duration that you are within the surgery.

Many Thanks for all your Cooperation.

For any further information please check our website <https://heartofbath.com>