

4PCN is a group of 4 local GP practices - Hanham Health, Kingswood Health Centre, Cadbury Heath Healthcare, and Close Farm Surgery. We aim to work collaboratively with our health and social care providers to provide integrated local services to our population of 53,000 patients.

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August 2021

Dear Patient,

## **Flu Vaccines and COVID Boosters**

Firstly, we want to thank you for your continued support over the past year. It has been difficult for so many people, but your messages of thanks and positive feedback, particularly around the successful COVID vaccination programme have really given our staff a much needed morale boost.

You may have seen in the media, there are plans for a COVID booster campaign this autumn, with the suggestion to give this at the same time as the annual flu injection. The finer details of this booster programme are ever changing and still being agreed at Government level, so we are planning to go ahead with our flu campaign as normal, so not to cause any delays for you, our patients.

We will have a flu vaccination reserved for you if you are over 50 or have a long term condition that makes you more vulnerable. If you are in one of these groups, please wait for your GP practice to contact you. You do not need to go elsewhere for your vaccination.

Patient convenience and safety is important to us, so we will be running clinics on various Saturdays in September & October to ensure as many of you can make it as possible, without affecting our regular services.

This year, more than ever, we ask that you to support your NHS GP surgery by booking your flu jab with us. Many people believe they are helping to ease the burden on surgeries by having their vaccination done elsewhere, but these vaccinations are an important part of our income stream, and having your vaccine with us means we can financially support other important services throughout the year.

We are also busy planning our COVID booster clinics and if you are eligible, we will be in touch with you when it is your turn. Again, we will have vaccines for everyone, and will be running weekend clinics this winter, but please wait for us to contact you to help keep our phone lines free for urgent medical matters.

Please keep an eye on your practice website and social media channels for further updates.

Thank you