



**Welcome to the latest issue of our patient newsletter.
Keeping you up to date with information you may need to know
and also, any new initiatives or activities we are supporting.**

Staffing Update

We are happy to welcome our new GP Registrar – Dr Irene Nwonye (female) she started at the surgery this week along with one of our other GP registrars Dr Faisal Shabab. We also have a 3rd GP Registrar starting the following week Dr Santhosh Panicker. All registrars will be working 3 days a week each at the Practice.

New Staff - We are really pleased that we have 3 new reception/admin staff. Louise and Amanda started on 1/8/23 and Jane will be starting in a couple of weeks. If you have been in the surgery recently, you may have noticed a young man on reception (Joe) he is covering short term for sickness as one of the team has had an operation and may be off for several months. We wish her a speedy recovery.

We are sad to announce that Nicky, one of our Advanced Clinical Practitioners will be leaving us at the end of September. Nicky is moving onto pastures new and we wish her all the very best. She will be missed. We are currently recruiting for this position.

We will also have a further Paramedic joining the team in September. We already have Bart that works on a Fridays, but from 5th September we will also have Michelle who will be working Tuesday and Thursday. Michelle will be able to deal with minor ailments.

Food Bank

If you have been into the surgery recently you may have noticed a box on the ground floor waiting room. This is a collection point for Rochdale Food Bank. If you are able to help please put your donations in the box.

We also have a member of staff that is fundraising to help her daughter – she has been given an amazing opportunity to go to a Camp Expedition to Borneo for a 4 week trip. She will be doing charitable work helping the local community. If you are interested in helping – this is on Facebook – Help Amy get to Borneo.

New Premises

We have now been in the building for 3 months, there are still a couple of teething problems. If there is something that you feel could be improved, please let us know. The clinical rooms are on the 2nd floor, with GP's on the ground floor, the nurses and Healthcare assistants are on the 1st floor (there is a lift). Admin rooms for the secretaries, data input and the phones are on the 2nd floor.

We have extra services working from the surgery now, we have a Mental Health Worker, a Social Prescriber who can help with completion of forms amongst other things. Paediatric Bloods and a Pharmacist (Rozy) to do medication reviews. Rozy may also contact you if you have been recently discharged from hospital in order to check all your medication is correct and in order.



FLU VACCINATIONS

Yes it's that time of year again!!

Are you 65 years or over?

Do you have a chronic disease?

Are you pregnant?

Child aged 2 or 3?



This year we will be offering Covid booster vaccination which can be given at the same time as your free flu vaccination, for those that are eligible. We have purchased vaccines for all patients that are in the eligible groups (aged 65 and over by 31/3/24, Age 18 – 64 in an “At Risk” group). These will be in specific clinics during the week and we will also be running some Saturday clinics.

We will be sending text messages out at the end of August to invite you for your vaccine. If you are booked in with a GP/Nurse they can do the flu vaccination during your appointment, but it may not be possible to do the covid booster at the same time, due to the covid vaccine having 20 injections per vial so would need 20 patients in that next 6 hours. We will do our best to facilitate this. If not, there will be separate clinics just for Covid boosters.

Over 65 years and At Risk patients should also ask about the pneumonia vaccine.

Don't forget the 'little ones' – Children who are born between 01/09/2019 and 31/08/2021 are eligible for a nasal flu. These can be done if you are bringing in your child for another appointment or by one of the specific clinics. We are also running a special Saturday as previous with a Disney theme where children can come in fancy dress, or as their favourite character. Staff will also be dressed up. We will be doing face painting and a prize for the best dressed on the day. More information to follow. Text Messages will be sent out to parents of eligible children.