

Lambton Road Medical Practice

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Happy New Year!

I write this short Newsletter with the positive news that half of our over 80s population registered at Lambton Road Surgery have already received their COVID vaccine at the Wilson Hospital, which started vaccinations just before Christmas.

In Merton, practices have been working together to set up 2 sites, and tomorrow January 7th the Hari Clinic on Kingston Road (next to the Nelson Medical Practice) will receive its first doses of the Pfizer vaccine, meaning we will be able to book in our patients at a more accessible site, which our clinicians are involved in managing and running.

We anticipate starting a Care Home vaccination programme next week when the Oxford AstraZeneca vaccine (which is easier to transport) arrives, and to also start vaccinating our housebound patients.

In addition, Epsom racecourse has been approved as a mass vaccination site and is anticipated to open on January 11th. Letters will be sent out for the mass sites centrally, if you are eligible.

For local vaccinations, please do not contact us – we will contact you! There are clear priority lists for the vaccine as set out below:

- 1. residents in a care home for older adults and their carers
- 2. all those 80 years of age and over and frontline health and social care workers
- 3. all those 75 years of age and over
- 4. all those 70 years of age and over and clinically extremely vulnerable individuals [footnote 1]
- 5. all those 65 years of age and over
- 6. all individuals aged 16 years to 64 years with underlying health conditions which put them at higher risk of serious disease and mortality
- 7. all those 60 years of age and over
- 8. all those 55 years of age and over
- 9. all those 50 years of age and over

We will endeavor to work through the priority lists as quickly as we can, vaccine supplies allowing.

Health and social care workers

If you are registered at Lambton Road and have not yet received the vaccine at work, please email us at swlccq.correspondenceh85051@nhs.net

Please note that this is for our <u>registered patients</u>.

If you are in this group and not registered with us, South West London offer a centralized register for dental, optometry, pharmacy staff and locum GPs working in South West London. You can add your name to an online list which will be shared with PCNs so they can contact you if they have vaccination capacity.

The online form may be accessed via the following link, <u>CVP Standby Invitation (SWL DOP)</u>, for you to submit you or your staff's details. **Please ensure the details are accurate and correct.**

Please consider if your call to the surgery, NHS 111 or other services is really necessary.

In the last few weeks we have still had significant numbers of calls for advice that could be provided by your high street pharmacist, or for trivial matters not needing GP input.

If you suspect you have COVID, please book a test via NHS 119. Do not ring the surgery as we have no access to tests, and please do not attend any appointments in person if you suspect you may have COVID or have symptoms.

The vaccine gives us hope and a way forward. For now, please value your NHS and use it appropriately. Obey the very simple original rules –

"Stay at home, Save Lives."

With

Best Wishes,

and a happier 2021 for all.

Dr Penelope Smith