##

 Christmas 2020

 Patient Newsletter

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**FLU IMMUNISATIONS**

**We have stocks of flu for the 50-64 age group, for the 65 and over age group and those under 50 who are eligible. It’s not too late to vaccinate – so make an appointment at reception if you have not already done so.**

**COVID VACCINATIONS**

**We are working as part of all the Practices in Newcastle to deliver the COVID-19 vaccine. This means that currently patients are being invited to go to either the Eagles Centre on Scotswood Road or the Gosforth Racecourse on specific days at specific times – we have no influence on this due to the complex logistics associated with the vaccine. You will be contacted by a member of the practice staff to make your appointments – there must be two injections at least 21 days apart to gain immunity.**

**Do not contact the practice to arrange this – we will contact you.**

**Can we take this opportunity to wish all our patients a**

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year

**WE ARE STILL OPEN**

**We are open – if you need an appointment about something that is not CORONA VIRUS related then please call us on 0191 2620444.**

**You will be assessed by a clinician over the telephone and an appropriate appointment given which may be advice over the phone, a video consultation or a face to face appointment.**

**If a face to face appointment is required you will be advised what to do when you come to the practice. This will include the wearing of a face covering while in the building.**

**Please do not just come down to the surgery. Only come down once you have been assessed by a clinician over the phone or been invited to visit by a member of the practice team.**

**THIS WILL ENSURE WE CAN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL CARE KEEPING PATIENTS AND STAFF SAFE.**

**Staff have been employed to keep the patients and practice staff safe. If you have problems using a phone or have no access to a phone please make this clear to the staff at the door who will be able to help get you access to our services.**

**Thank you for your co-operation at this difficult time for all of us.**

 **CLOSING TIMES FOR Christmas**

**We will be closed on:**

**Friday 25 December and will reopen as usual on Tuesday 29 December.**

**and**

**Friday 31 December reopening as usual on Monday 4 January 2021.**

**When we are closed and you need emergency help ring 999 and ask for an ambulance for other urgent medical help and advice call the 111 service. This is a free service from landlines and mobiles.**