**Newsletter**

 **Headstone Lane Medical Centre**

 **September 2023**

This is a patient newsletter that will be published on our practice website and sent out via text message to all patients with a mobile number recorded at the surgery. The aim of the newsletter is to update our patients on changes to how the surgery is operating and the current situation in the NHS.

Flu Vaccine Clinics

The surgery has started booking appointments for flu vaccines. Eligible patients will have already received an SMS message inviting them to book an appointment. If you have not received a message and think you are eligible for the flu vaccine, please call the surgery and a receptionist can check for you.

Medical Student

The practice will be hosting a final year medical student in September and October of this year.

Protect yourself and others against flu and Covid-19 this winter

During the colder months, flu and Covid-19 spread more easily as we spend more time indoors. These viruses can have a serious impact on people’s health, which can lead to time in hospital and even death. If you’re eligible If you’re eligible, getting your vaccine will help protect you and those around you over the winter months.

From this month onwards, the NHS will be contacting people who are eligible for these vaccinations to come forward for them. Those most at risk, including adult care home residents, will be the first priority. Other groups eligible for both flu and Covid-19 vaccines include those aged 65+, people with lower immunity, and those in their household. People who are pregnant are also strongly encouraged to book their flu jab. This will help protect you and your baby and can be done at any stage of pregnancy. Children aged 2 – 17 will be offered the flu nasal spray or vaccine, and those in school will have the option to have it during their school day.

If you are contacted by the NHS to have your Covid-19 and flu vaccination, please come forward. For more details, FAQs and eligibility information visit: [www.nwlondonicb.nhs.uk/Winter](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.nwlondonicb.nhs.uk%2FWinter&data=05%7C01%7Csaarah.meghji%40nhs.net%7C5587c224a68e4372aa5c08dbab031442%7C37c354b285b047f5b22207b48d774ee3%7C0%7C0%7C638291803001452242%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=YjFMpAZtzv7sIXysP3228Eu7u%2F6m8vuq79gh8V%2FzTMA%3D&reserved=0)

‘We are General Practice’ Campaign

NHS North West London in partnership with local GP practices has launched a new campaign to explain how general practice is changing and why you may see a different clinical expert when you come here for your appointment in future – depending on your need.

Watch our video to see how practices such as ourselves are working as a team of medical experts and support staff, led and supervised by the GP, to better support you.

In our practice, as well as (a) GP(s), we also have specialists such as Clinical Pharmacist, Physician Associate, Health Care Assistant. We will always make sure you see the right person for your needs.

You can find out more about ‘We are General Practice’ campaign by visiting www.nwlondonics.nhs.uk/wearegeneralpractice