

TAYVIEW MEDICAL PRACTICE

COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME - AGED 80 YEARS AND OVER

Dear Patients

Thank you for your continued patience regarding further information relating to the Covid-19 vaccination programme.

At this time, I can confirm that the practice has been asked to assist with vaccinating all patients aged 80 years and over who are not housebound and able to come to the surgery for a vaccination. Housebound patients will be vaccinated by NHS Fife and this is likely to involve input from the District Nursing Team although I still await full confirmation regarding housebound patients.

At this time, we still do not have a confirmed date for vaccinating patients in this cohort nor do we have any confirmed date as to when the practice will receive vaccinations or which type of vaccine will be used. However, I have detailed below the procedures that will be involved should you be invited to attend for a vaccination at the practice. Please note, due to the requirements of social distancing, and the lack of internal space at our Tayport site, all vaccinations will be provided from our Newport site in order to ensure safety is maintained.

The practice has over 600 patients aged 80 years and over that will be invited for a vaccination. Due to the high numbers, and the requirements to maintain social distancing, we will have little flexibility regarding any changes to the date or time of your appointment as our clinics will be full. We kindly ask that you try your hardest to attend at the appointed time if you wish to be vaccinated.

Our clinics are likely to run over a 2 week period and will involve morning clinics given the high number of patients to be vaccinated.

As all members of the practice clinical team will be involved with vaccinating patients, our appointment capacity will be reduced significantly. We are still available for all urgent medical matters but we kindly ask patients to consider whether their medical matter is urgent in nature or can be dealt with more appropriately by another healthcare provider such as an optician, dentist or local pharmacy. Our reception team may divert you to a more appropriate healthcare provider to assist you with your medical matter or a GP may advise you that your medical matter is not urgent in nature with a view to being dealt with at a later date. Alternatively, they may direct you to an alternative health care provider.

As I receive further information from NHS Scotland and NHS Fife regarding the vaccination programme, I will continue to update our practice website. Please continue to monitor our practice website www.tayviewmp.org.uk for the most up-to-date information regarding the vaccination programme and any other practice business.

We are extremely grateful to you for your cooperation when attending your appointment. Again, please do not arrive early for your appointment and remember to bring your consent form with you.

We look forward to welcoming you to your appointment should you wish to be vaccinated.

Best wishes

David Ramsay - Business Manager

Patients invited to attend the practice for a vaccination can expect:

- To receive a letter from the practice detailing a date and time to attend for your vaccination. The letter will also provide you with a date and time to attend for your booster vaccination 28 days later. Attached to the letter will be information regarding the Covid-19 vaccine and two consent forms (one for your first vaccination and one for your booster). It is very important that you read the information provided in order to make an informed decision as to whether you wish to be vaccinated or not. If you wish to be vaccinated, you should ensure you have completed all the relevant parts on the consent form and bring the consent form with you to your appointment. The letter will also detail how to contact the practice should you wish to decline being vaccinated.
- We ask patients, if possible, to attend for the vaccination on their own. If you need the assistance of a carer or relative, they will be provided with access to the building too. Please do not turn up early to your appointment and arrive at the time detailed on your letter. Please also ensure you are wearing a face covering or face mask. Upon arrival, you will be greeted at our main entrance by a member of staff. They will check your consent form and ask you some questions to determine whether you have any symptoms of Covid-19. Your temperature may also be taken. Once your consent form is checked, you will be asked to use the hand sanitizer at the front entrance and directed to the waiting area.
- Another member of staff stationed within the waiting area will welcome you and direct you to where you should stand. Chairs will be available for use by any patient who finds standing difficult. You will be asked to prepare for your vaccination by removing any outer garments such as a jacket and to roll up your sleeve. The member of staff will then direct you to a seat outside one of the consultation rooms.
- A GP or Nurse will invite you into their consultation room when they are ready to vaccinate you. Again, we ask, if possible, that you remain standing for your vaccination. This helps keep our process moving as quickly as possible. The GP or Nurse will ask for your consent form, confirm you are happy to be vaccinated and will administer the vaccination into your upper arm. You will then be directed to leave the building by the use of our fire exit. There will be hand sanitizer available for use at the fire exit door and we would encourage patients to use the sanitizer when exiting the building.
- There is no requirement to wait for any length of time after being vaccinated and patients can return home.
- The above process will be repeated when you attend for your booster vaccination and you should bring your second consent form to that appointment.
- Please also note that our toilets will be out of use during the running of these clinics