**ABINGDON MEDICAL PRACTICE**

 **NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2021**

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***STAFF CHANGES***

As of 9th August 2021 Dr Dharshika Srikantharajah will be on maternity leave. In her absence Dr Lilian Swan will be taking care of her patients.

***COVID 19 VACCINATION PROGRAMME***

The Abingdon Medical Practice is working with 8 other local practices in the Brompton Health PCN to get patients vaccinated as quickly and safely as possible.

We have now invited all patients 18 years old and over for their 1st Covid-19 Vaccination. We are focusing currently on re-contacting those patients whom have not yet had their vaccine and also inviting patients into vaccination centres who are due their 2nd vaccinations.

GPs strongly advise that you take up the offer of your COVID vaccination. A vaccine has been allocated to everyone & it is vital people come forward when called, to support the success of the program and to help get our lives back to normal. We all have our part to play.

Please visit the practice news section on our website for the latest updates on where you can get vaccinated.

Patients Received 1st vaccination on 24.06.21: 4,305

Patients received 2nd vaccination on 24.06.21: 3,282

***COVID 19 VACCINATION***

***STATUS***

There have been many enquiries regarding vaccination certificates.

GPs cannot provide letters showing your Covid-19 vaccination status. Please use NHS App in order to get your vaccination status, or call 119.

For more information please visit [**gov.uk/demonstrating-your-vaccine-status**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/demonstrating-your-covid-19-vaccination-status-when-travelling-abroad)

Please note if your Covid-19 vaccine was administered abroad, even if entered by your GP practice in your medical record, this will not show in NHS app. Only vaccines administered in the UK will show in the NHS app. Please access your online record via TPP in order to access your vaccination record entered by the practice.

Please visit the practice news section on our website for more information.

***ONE YOU – THE NEW SERVICES IN K&C AND WESTIMNSTER***

There has never been a more important time to look after your mental and physical health. Contact the ONE YOU

services for FREE Stop Smoking support and medication to help you quit, or access FREE

Healthy Lifestyle support including online weight management, physical activity, mental wellbeing or cook & eat classes and workshops by calling 020 3434 2500 or sign up here: <https://bit.ly/SignUptoONEYOU> or visit <https://oneyou.rbkc.gov.uk/> to find out more.

The eligibility criteria:

All referrals must be residents of**Westminster or RBKC**

***UPDATE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS***

Please ensure you are updating your contact & address details with us if/when you move or change your phone numbers. This is particularly important during the COVID Vaccination Programme to ensure we are able to contact you to invite you for your 1st & 2nd vaccines.

***ON-SITE PHARMACIST***

Anita our onsite Pharmacist is able to help our patients and our staff with medication queries, blood pressure & asthma reviews.

***SOCIAL PRESCRIBER***

Our Social Prescribers are here to support our patient’s well-being and non-medical issues. Please ask your GP for a referral.

Who is a Social Prescriber: "Someone to have a chat with about your wellbeing, to listen to you, and see if there's any non-clinical support out there that you feel would be a beneficial add-on to keeping yourself feeling well and connected at this time."

***NHS DIGITAL – DATA COLLECTION FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FROM GP PRACTICES***

The data held in the GP medical records of patients is used every day to support health and care planning and research in England, helping to find better treatments and improve patient outcomes for everyone.

NHS Digital has developed a new way to collect this data, called the General Practice Data for Planning and Research data collection. The new data collection reduces burden on GP practices, allowing doctors and other staff to focus on patient care. For full information see: https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/data-collections-and-data-sets/data-collections/general-practice-data-for-planning-and-research.

If you don’t want your identifiable patient data to be shared for purposes except for your own care, you can opt-out by registering a [Type 1 Opt-out](https://digital.nhs.uk/your-data/opting-out-of-data-sharing) or a [National Data Opt-out](https://www.nhs.uk/your-nhs-data-matters/manage-your-choice/), or both. These opt-outs are different and they are explained in more detail below. Your individual care will not be affected if you opt-out using either option.

Data sharing with NHS Digital will start on 1 September 2021.

***PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP***

The PPG is a great way to understand more about what goes on in your practice. We do three interactive sessions a year where you can understand a little more about the services that the Abingdon Medical Practice offers our patients. For the safety of our patients and staff during the current pandemic the meetings are taking place online. The group is open to all patients; please contact reception if you are interested in joining.

