

Flu 2020: Frequently Asked Questions

When are the flu appointments available to be booked into?

168 Medical Group will start to open up appointments for booking into a flu vaccine clinic from 7th September 2020 onwards.

When do the flu clinics start?

The pre-booked clinics will be scheduled to start towards the end of September for over 65 year olds, once stock delivery dates are confirmed. The flu vaccination clinics for patients at risk under 65 years old will start in October.

Who should get the flu vaccine?

This year the flu vaccine is being offered on the NHS to:

- adults 65 and over (including anyone who will be 65 by the 31st March 2021)
- people with certain medical conditions (including children in at-risk groups from 6 months of age)
- pregnant women
- CARERS - including people living with someone who's at high risk from coronavirus (on the NHS shielded patient list)
- children aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2020
- children in primary school (n.b. these vaccines are available via the school ONLY)
- children in year 7 (secondary school) (n.b. these vaccines are available via the school ONLY)
- frontline health or social care workers

I am aged 50-64, am I also now eligible?

Later in the year, the flu vaccine is expected to be able to be given to people aged 50 to 64.

More information will be available to the 50-64 'newly eligible' patients later in the autumn and until then, 168 Medical Group appointments are only being opened up to be booked by those patients who were already eligible. We have to prioritise vaccine stock for the most vulnerable patients first.

- If you're aged 50 to 64 but also in another at-risk group, you should book for your flu vaccine and not wait (bookings start from 7th September 2020).
- If you're aged 50 to 64 and were not already in an at risk group, please ensure the practice has a correct mobile number for you, as details will be sent by text about the availability of additional vaccines later in the season.

I am almost 65, am I eligible now?

Yes. As with previous years, anyone who will be 65 years old by the 31st March 2021 will be entitled to receive a flu vaccine from the 65+ supply even before they physically turn 65.

Can I have my flu vaccine when I am coming up the surgery for another medical reason?

Yes, but only if you have an appointment and only if time allows on the day.

If an eligible patient is already coming to 168 Medical Group for a face to face appointment with a GP, Nurse or HCA a flu vaccine can potentially be given if time allows on the day.

This will only apply to appointments after the following dates:

- From 14th September onwards for the over 65s
- From 5th October onwards for the under 65s.
- From mid-November (we believe) for the newly eligible 50-64 year olds

