



**ST JAMES
MEDICAL
CENTRE
AND
CHURCH
LANE
SURGERY**

Patient Newsletter – September 2009

SEASONAL FLU CAMPAIGN

**St James Church Hall
(Next to St James Medical Centre)**

On

Thursday 8th October 2009

Friday 16th October 2009

Also

**Some appointments available at the
Church Lane Surgery
(Norton Fitzwarren)**



Am I eligible for a flu jab?

All patients aged 65 and over are eligible. In addition the Government identifies priority target groups, which are Chronic respiratory disease and asthma that requires inhaled or systemic steroid medication. Chronic heart disease. Chronic renal or liver disease. Diabetes. Immunosuppression (patients without spleens, undergoing chemotherapy or HIV infections).

Can I have a flu jab if I fall outside these priority groups?

Generally speaking the answer is no, but if at the end of the campaign there is vaccine available there is a chance that your GP will allow you to have one.

I am not included in any of the priority categories, but have always had a flu jab. Surely I still qualify?

Vaccination is targeted towards groups with specific needs and is not available on demand.

I don't qualify, but I am happy to pay for a flu jab. Can I do this?

No. We are not permitted to provide a private vaccination for our patients. Some supermarkets and chemists have offered vaccine in the past.

What will be the arrangements for the flu clinics?

The Clinics will be held in the Church Hall (next to the surgery). They will run from 1.30pm until 5.30pm. The clinic at the Church Lane surgery will be held on a Wednesday afternoon from 2pm until 4.30pm.

It will be busy! Please arrive at the time you were allocated. We have a team of Nurses and GPs jabbing at an interval of one per minute. Please wear short-sleeved clothing, and if arriving by car you

are strongly advised to park elsewhere.

This year we are hoping to be able to update on some of your personal details, so we will be requesting that while at the clinic you complete a short patient update form.

What happens if I cannot make any of the flu sessions?

If you are unable to make any of the sessions already allocated there is a possibility that we will offer one more 'mop-up' session, this will probably be in November.

What happens if I am housebound, and cannot get to the clinic?

If you really cannot get to the surgery then ring our Reception, and we will speak to your GP about getting a home visit.

