



PRACTICE NEWSLETTER NO.3

Covid Vaccination:

The question on everyone's lips at the moment is when can I have my Covid Vaccination and who will contact me to let me know?

We have some answers for you, but they may differ from what you have heard already or what seems to be happening.

There has been some incorrect information circulated and some people have been recalled before others who have the same eligibility. Naturally this has caused some confusion and frustration.

Covid vaccination is being done in community clinics rather than here because the Pfizer vaccine has such specific storage requirements.

Everyone falls into one of four groups that determines eligibility for the vaccine. The first two groups have already been recalled. The recall for the third group comprising all those over sixty-five, and those with a disability or high risk health condition should start between Mid-May and the end of June. Everyone else over the age of sixteen is in Group four. Group four will be recalled later in the year.

We have other important information about this, the flu vaccination and how to apply for an early vaccination on compassionate grounds if you are in Group four. You will find this information on the homepage of our website, it is easy to find as it's in the bold red section with white writing.

Our website address is nelsonfamilymedicine.co.nz.



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Doctor Alannah Stockwell:

She will be coming back from maternity leave mid-year to do a regular skin clinic and some locum sessions for doctors who are away. Because she won't be coming back to her regular general practice sessions for some time, we ask that you register with another doctor of your choice. Dr Lizzie Thomas has been looking after most of Alannah's patients.

In the future if you still wish to be Alannah's patient when she comes back to regular general practice sessions, you will be welcome to re-register with her.

Special Clinics:

We are currently offering a number of specialised clinics. Flu vaccination clinics are opened up as vaccine supplies are delivered. These are bookable online and by phoning reception.

We have a dedicated skin clinic for skin checks and skin surgery. Bookings are by phoning reception or by referral from our other GPs. Dr Marissa Kelaher is offering lifestyle medicine consultations. These also need to be booked by phoning reception because they are an extended consultation with a comprehensive lifestyle questionnaire we get you to fill out prior to your visit. This approach can be effective in a range of different conditions.

The other clinic we are offering is a Wednesday evening clinic until seven pm for those who find office hours appointments problematic. The doctors at this clinic are Dr Lizzie Thomas Dr Arwen Mohr and Dr Ed Johnson.