

SILTON SURGERY –NEWSLETTER JULY 2021

As many of you will now be aware we have opened the doors at Silton Surgery. We ask that you do not enter if the reception area is crowded.

Patients should go to the right hand side of the reception desk to let the receptionist know you are here for an appointment.

Go to the left hand side of the reception desk to collect medication, drop off any samples etc.

A face covering is still required for entry to all NHS buildings. You should continue to use the hand sanitiser supplied at our entrances and exits. Our staff will continue to wear PPE and follow strict protocols in relation to patient contact.

Despite the easing of lockdown rules we ask that you please keep a 1 metre plus distance from any other patients who are in the reception area. Some of our patients may have weakened immune systems or a condition that makes them more susceptible to the virus, and we want to keep our surgery staff safe, so that we can remain open.

Be patient, especially in the mornings when the phone needs to be answered.

Please **DO NOT** leave jam jars, books or magazines at the surgery! We recently had a number of empty jam jars and magazines left at the front door. We are not able to display magazines in reception or sell marmalade/jam in aid of the Silton Surgery fund. If this changes we will let you know.

We have had a few occasions recently when a patient has turned up at the surgery with a minor injury and been rather cross when told that they cannot have a nurse's appointment that day. If you have a minor injury you should ring the surgery on 01747 840226 and enquire if there is a free appointment that day. But if the nurse's clinics are full, you will not be able to attend the surgery. We are not a 'walk in centre'. Minor injuries can be seen at:

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| Wincanton Health Centre, open <u>8:30am - 6pm</u> 01963 435700 |
| Frome Community Hospital open <u>8am - 9pm</u> 01373 454740 |
| Shepton Mallet Community Hospital open <u>8am - 9pm</u> 01749 342931 |
| Yeovil District Hospital A&E open <u>24 hours</u> 01935 475122 |
| Salisbury District Hospital A&E open <u>24 hours</u> 01722 336262 |

Coronavirus vaccine boosters

We do not yet know how/when the NHS is going to administer a coronavirus booster. Over 50's and at risk groups will be eligible for a booster. In other words, those who are invited to have a flu vaccination. You can keep checking the following website <https://www.gov.uk/> who will publish the information once it is available.

Walk in Covid vaccination clinics

There is capacity for both Astra Zeneca and Pfizer 1st and 2nd doses at many walk-in vaccination centres across our local area. Details published and updated daily via the CCG Website CCG bswccg.nhs.uk . Salisbury City Hall and ABC Drug Store, Downton, Salisbury are two clinics among the local ones.

The following website is for patients to book an appointment for a Covid vaccination:
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Sites will ONLY accept patients for 2nd doses **on or after 8 weeks**. Patients will be turned away without a clinical reason for early vaccination unless they are about to undergo immunosuppressive therapy or because of pregnancy due date.

Patients will NOT be able to be vaccinated earlier at a walk in centre due to travel arrangements.

Patients awaiting 2nd vaccine if OVER 8 weeks (or booked appt at 11-12 weeks) Vaccination is now recommended at minimum 8 wks. Please cancel and rebook your appt via NBS or visit a walk in service, details available at bswccg.nhs.uk

Practice Nurses

Jess and Claire are now doing ear syringing at the surgery, when time and appointments allow! We can supply patients with an ear care leaflet, which we recommend you read and follow the instructions given, before attempting to book an ear syringe appointment.

They are also doing; New Patient Checks, NHS Health Checks and (Spirometry's from the end of August), Please wear a face covering when attending an appointment with a practice nurse.

GP appointments

At present we are still booking patients in for a phone call with a GP in the first instance. If you are happy to do so, please let the receptionist know the reason for your appointment. This is so that the GP can assess and call those patients requiring urgent triage first. Please make sure we have the correct contact details on your electronic record. If you require a face to face appointment, one will be arranged for you when the GP rings you. We take great care when a patient enters the building to ensure that both staff and patients are in a clean, safe environment. We ask that you still wear a face covering and use the hand sanitiser provided.

If you have a rash or lesion you would like to discuss with a GP please phone reception to book an appointment and send a picture of the rash/lesion etc to our email: silton.surgery@nhs.net This means that the GP can view the rash/lesion before ringing you.

Silton Surgery, Silton, Gillingham, Dorset SP8 5DF Tel: 01747 840226