

**The Royal Crescent and Preston Road Practice**

# **A Patient Guide to Walk-in Flu clinics**



## **Flu Season 2017**

The Royal Crescent and Preston Road surgeries will be holding 'walk-in' flu clinics to give the flu vaccine to eligible patients this season. This leaflet explains why the practice plans to work in this way and what to expect on the day.

# 'Walk-in' Flu Clinics

## What is a 'walk- in' flu clinic?

Walk-in clinics are clinics with no set appointment times for individuals to attend. Our walk-in flu clinics will be held off site at large venues.

## Why has the practice decided to do flu clinics in this way?

Last year, the 2 surgeries gave nearly 5,000 flu vaccinations and for the first time we carried out most of this work in large walk-in clinics. In the past we have provided clinics at the surgery mostly on Saturdays to avoid disrupting normal service delivery.

Clinics held at the surgeries are limited by parking and space meaning that we can only vaccinate approximately 2-300 patients per clinic. Using large venues overcomes the issues around space and parking meaning that we can vaccinate much larger numbers of patients at any one clinic.

The main advantage to patients is that larger numbers of patients receive the vaccine quicker. Last year, the majority of eligible patients were vaccinated by late October. Previously, clinics held in the surgery have gone into November, December and even January when the flu viruses have been circulating for weeks increasing patient risk of exposure. Therefore large **walk in flu clinics provide faster protection from flu to our patient population.**

## What can you expect on the day?



### Parking

Venues have been carefully chosen. Please see the back page for details of parking available. There will be plenty of staff to direct you at the venues.

### Queues

From previous experience we have learnt that walk-in clinics work better if queues can be avoided. To help prevent queues we provide each patient with a time slot of two hours during which to attend. This is to distribute the numbers of patients evenly throughout the clinic.





### **What if I cannot make the given timeslot?**

To help us manage the clinics it is important that you arrive within your designated time slot. If you cannot make this time please contact your surgery to arrange an alternative.

### **Who will give me the vaccine?**

Several practitioners (nurses, GPs and health care assistants) will be available to give you the vaccine in a large room or hall.

### **What do I need to bring and do?**

- **IMPORTANT** - Read and sign the consent form on the back of the letter and bring it with you.
- Arrive within your time slot
- Wear appropriate clothing - you will be asked to roll up your sleeve exposing the very top section of your arm. Many gentlemen find it difficult to roll a shirtsleeve up high enough and this creates delays.
- Either arm can be used unless you have had breast surgery or attend renal units or for any reason have been advised not to have injections in a particular arm.
- There will be plenty of staff available to deal with queries.

### **Who should not attend a 'walk in' clinic?**

Walk in clinics do not suit everyone and we are still holding some smaller clinics at the surgeries for these patients. These patients are: children (up to age 16 years), pregnant ladies, immobile and/or housebound patients. Patients who struggle to walk and stand can be seen in surgery if they prefer, we will however make every effort to prioritise such patients who arrive at the walk in clinic. Immunosuppressed patients can be seen in surgery if they prefer.

### **What if I cannot attend a 'walk in' clinic?**

We do request that patients make every effort to attend the walk in clinic they have been offered. We will be staging three walk-in clinics in total, at different venues. Please contact us if you cannot make Westfield and we will give you an alternative.

**Carers-** If you look after someone and you are not on our carers register, please ask one of the reception team for a form or further information. This ensures you remain eligible for the vaccination.

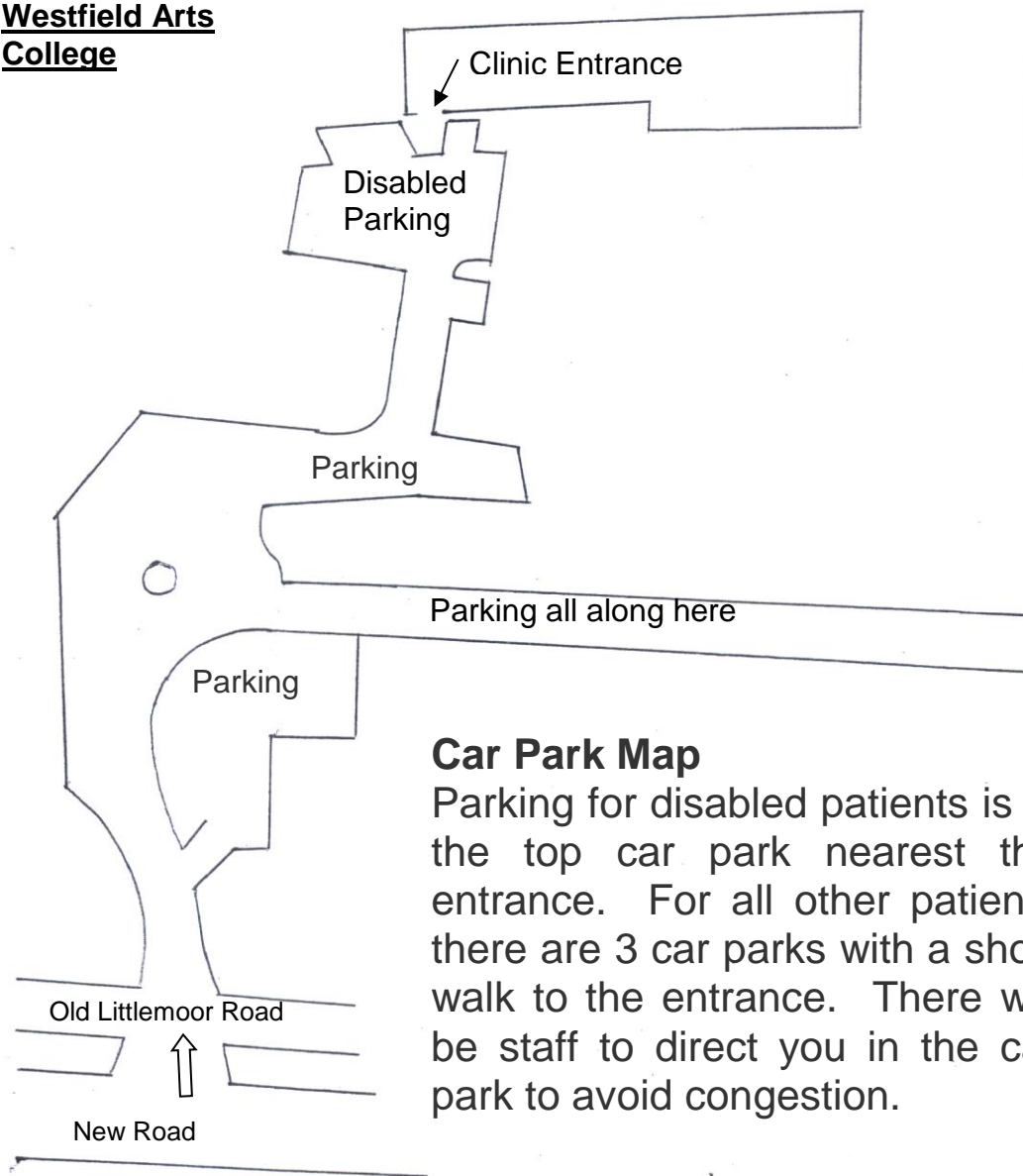
**AF Screening-** Patients aged 65 and over will be offered a pulse check to screen for a condition call 'atrial fibrillation'. For further information please see: <https://www.bhf.org.uk/heart-health/conditions/atrial-fibrillation.aspx> .

**Venue:** Westfield Arts College, Littlemoor Road, Preston, Weymouth, Dorset DT3 6AA

### Public Transport – First buses

Routes 4/4B stop at Chalbury Corner

#### Westfield Arts College



#### **Car Park Map**

Parking for disabled patients is in the top car park nearest the entrance. For all other patients there are 3 car parks with a short walk to the entrance. There will be staff to direct you in the car park to avoid congestion.

#### **Wey Valley School and Sports College**

Dorchester Road  
Weymouth  
Dorset DT3 5AN

#### **Parking**

Plenty of parking on site

#### **Public Transport – First Buses**

Routes 2 and 10 stop at the College

#### **Park Community Centre**

Chelmsford Street  
Weymouth  
Dorset DT4 7HR

#### **Parking**

Very limited parking in streets around centre.