**Eligible groups 2023**

You can have the flu jab if you are in these groups (example conditions are shown under each category):

**Flu vaccination will be offered to all those aged 65 and over.**

Any one aged **64 or under** must come in to one of the following categories:

**Long term lung conditions**

* Asthmatics *who take regular inhaled or oral steroids or who have had hospital admissions for asthma*
* Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
* Bronchiectasis
* Cystic fibrosis
* Lung fibrosis
* Pneumoconiosis (Dust)

**Long term heart or circulation conditions**

* Congenital heart disease
* Heart failure
* Heart attack, angina and other ischaemic heart disease
* Peripheral vascular (circulation) disease
* Rheumatic heart disease
* Cardiomyopathy

**Long term neurological (brain/nerve) conditions**

* Stroke
* TIA ('mini-stroke')
* Parkinson's disease
* Multiple sclerosis
* Cerebral palsy
* Muscular dystrophy
* Dementia
* Spinal disease or paralysis affecting lung function
* Myaesthenia
* Learning disability

**Long term kidney conditions**

* Kidney failure
* Kidney impairment
* Kidney transplant

**Long term liver conditions**

* Hepatitis
* Cirrhosis
* Liver transplant

**Endocrine (hormonal) conditions**

* Diabetic patients on diet only, oral drugs or injections
* Pituitary gland disorders
* Addison's disease (lack of natural body steroids)

**Reduced immunity due to medical conditions or drugs**

* No spleen (e.g. due to injury or illness)
* On long term steroids
* On cytotoxic or immunity suppressing drugs *e.g., rheumatoid arthritis injections, active or recent cancer treatment*
* HIV infection or AIDS
* Coeliac disease (wheat intolerance)
* Systemic lupus
* Certain blood disorders and blood cancers

**Pregnant women**

* All currently pregnant women at any stage of pregnancy

**Age or circumstance**

* Long stay residential care homes patients
* Carers who are in receipt of a carer's allowance, main carers, or those carers who regularly look after a person whose welfare would be at risk if they (the carer) become ill
* Morbidly obese patients *(BMI of 40 or above)*
* Consideration will be given to vaccinating those who are in the same household as someone with a severely suppressed immune system - cases will be considered individually and vaccination is not guaranteed
* Children aged 2 to 3 years *(date of birth between September 1st 2017 and August 31st 2019 inclusive)*.

**Not eligible for a surgery flu jab**

The following groups cannot have a flu jab at the surgery, but may be eligible elsewhere, such as from employer or school

**Frontline health and social care workers to be vaccinated by their employer**

* All frontline health and social care workers should receive a vaccination **from their employer,** in order to meet their responsibility to protect their staff and patients and ensure the overall safe running of services.

**Previous conditions with full recovery or which are now stable**

* Patients who have previously had chest infections with no residual long term problems are not at any more risk of respiratory complications from developing flu than that of the general population
* Patients who have previously had treatment for cancer and are now either recovered or stable with no active ongoing radiotherapy or chemotherapy treatment

**Babies under 6 months of age**

* Flu jabs are not recommended in children in this age group even in the presence of at-risk conditions

**Children to be vaccinated at school**

* All primary school and secondary school children will be invited separately and vaccinated at school - (NB: children with at-risk conditions can be vaccinated at the surgery if wished)

**Non-eligible patients wishing the flu jab privately**

* Unfortunately, though we would be happy to do so, unfair and restrictive clauses in our contract mean that, unlike pharmacies and supermarkets, we are not permitted to offer flu jabs to any of our non-eligible patients privately.