

Dear Patient

COVID-19 Vaccination Programme

The practice will invite you to book your COVID-19 Vaccination in accord with Government published priorities. The vaccination will be available from our central designated location of Rowcroft Medical Centre, Rowcroft Retreat, Stroud GL5 3BE. By receiving the vaccination you can protect yourself from becoming unwell with or dying from COVID-19 disease.

If you have received an invitation, please note that relatives and friends not in your priority cohort will be invited to book at a later date.

Two doses of the vaccination at three weeks apart are required to provide full protection. We will only be able to book you an appointment if you will be available to attend for both vaccines, where this is not possible you will need to wait for a time when you will be able to have both injections.

When booking your appointment you will be asked about your mobility and offered an option to suite you. We will also ask you if you have a mobile number either of your own, or a relative you are happy for us to contact on your behalf, in the event of us having to make any short notice changes to your appointment.

Please call Minchinhampton Surgery on 01453 883793 to book an appointment. Please **do not** call Rowcroft Medical Centre with any enquires, we at your own surgery, will help you with any queries or problems you have.

Vaccination Information

Information about COVID-19 vaccines is available at:
www.gov.uk/government/collections/immunisation and
www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine

Some vaccine recipients may experience a painful heavy arm where they had the injection and may feel tired or have a mild fever for a couple of days. These are common side effects following vaccination. If you experience other side effects please contact your GP surgery.

The COVID-19 vaccination will reduce the risk of a person contracting SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Like all medicines, no vaccine is completely effective and it takes a few weeks after the vaccine for the body to build up protection. Some people may still get COVID-19 despite having a vaccination, but this should lessen the severity of any infection.

The vaccine cannot give a person COVID-19 disease, and two doses will reduce the chance of an individual becoming seriously ill or dying. An eligible person will still need to follow the guidance in place to reduce transmission of COVID-19, such as washing hands frequently, keeping social distance and wearing a face covering when necessary.

During the vaccination delivery we will maintain the range of measures we have in place to keep our staff and residents safe from COVID-19. Staff giving the vaccine will be wearing personal protective equipment and will abide by all our cleaning and disinfection requirements.

Best wishes,