
Are you eligible for a Shingles Vaccination?

You are eligible if:

You turned 70 or 78 on or after the 1st April 2017

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Anyone in their 70's who was born after 1st September 1942 who has not yet had the vaccine

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Anyone aged 79 who has not yet had the vaccine

National Vaccine Shortage

Don't be a DNA!

If you are unable to attend your appointment please let us know so we can offer this to someone else who may really need it

Shingles Vaccinations

Shingles isn't like other infections disease because you don't catch it from someone else. Shingles can be very painful and tends to affect people more commonly as they get older. **The older you are, the worse it can be.** About one in five people who have had chicken pox will develop shingles.

There is a vaccine that helps you reduce your risk of getting shingles and reduces the severity of the symptoms if you develop the disease.

You only need to have the vaccine once. By having the vaccine, you will significantly reduce your chance of developing shingles. If you do go on to have shingles the symptoms are likely to be milder and the illness shorter.

People who have a weakened immune system, for example, due to cancer treatment, or those who may have an allergic reaction, should not have the vaccine.

If you are eligible and want to have the vaccination, please contact Reception on 01594 542270. Speak to your GP or one of the Practice Nurses if you need more information, or visit the NHS Choices website at www.nhs.uk/shingles.

National Vaccine Shortage

There is currently a global shortage of vaccines which is likely to continue for some time. We are unable to obtain supplies of Pneumococcal, Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccines so are currently unable to offer these. We hope to offer Hepatitis A again in the near future.

Don't be a DNA!

A DNA is someone who Did Not Attend an appointment at the Surgery and did not tell us beforehand. The Doctor or Nurse were waiting, but the patient did not attend.

DNAs are a serious problem for the NHS. Research shows that around 13 million GP appointments and 6 million practice nurse appointments are missed each year.

In January 2018, **69** patients failed to attend for their pre-booked appointment. This is the equivalent of 15 hours of clinical time that was wasted which could have been used to help other patients. This means other patients have to wait longer, and the number of appointments that are available is reduced by each DNA that occurs.

If you are unable to attend for your appointment, please let us know. You don't even need to speak to anyone – just leave a message on our cancellation line (01594 542270 – Option 1). You can also cancel your appointments via SystmOnline. Thank you.