

Grafton Medical Partners Macmillan Way

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Happy New Year!

I write this short Newsletter whilst awaiting our first delivery of 975 doses of the Pfizer Vaccine. We start vaccinating our over 80s & frontline staff in Health and Social Care at 3pm today, January 6th 2021. We also anticipate a second delivery next week.

The programme is logistically challenging, but for all of us uplifting, as we see this is our way to protect our patients and help see everyone's lives return to normal.

One of my colleagues has already started to vaccinate our Care Home residents.

We anticipate a delivery of the Oxford Astra Zeneca Vaccine in the next week and will be able to start vaccinating our housebound patients with the help of Central London Community Healthcare District Nurses.

We will endeavour to work through the priority lists as quickly as we can, vaccine supplies allowing.

Volunteering

We have a great team of volunteers who have agreed to help us run the vaccine programme, but would be keen to hear from you if you would also like to contribute. Please email us at swccq.trevelyanhousesurgery@nhs.net for the attention of Keighly.

Health and social care workers

We will be contacting you if you are a patient in an at risk group. If you are a Health or Social Care worker registered with us, and have not yet received a vaccine at work, please email us on swccq.trevelyanhousesurgery@nhs.net and we will contact you when there is a slot available.

This uplifting news is in contrast to the local situation, with all of our country's NHS services overstretched; St George's is at breaking point and cases in London are rising daily.

Please consider if your call to the surgery, NHS 111 or other services is really necessary.

In the last few weeks we have still had significant numbers of calls for advice that could be provided by your high street pharmacist, or for trivial matters not needing GP input.

If you suspect you have COVID, please book a test via NHS 119. Do not ring the surgery as we have no access to tests, and please do not attend any appointments in person if you suspect you may have COVID or have symptoms.

The vaccine gives us hope and a way forward. For now, please value your NHS and use it appropriately. Obey the very simple original rules –

"Stay at home, Save Lives."

With

Best Wishes,

and a happier 2021 for all.

Dr Penelope Smith