

Update from the Surgery

As the sun sets on another day vaccinating we are confident that we have hit the national target of inviting and vaccinating everyone eligible in the top 4 cohorts. This means everyone over 70, in a care home or shielding. If you feel you are in this group and have not been vaccinated then please do contact us – kmccg.woodchurchsurgery@nhs.net.

The overwhelming feelings this week that I keep ruminating about are that this vaccination program is the most important thing that any of us will do in our career and that already there “seems” to be an impact on the number of positive cases and the severity. The care homes feel better protected and not such a tinderbox of vulnerability. It is beginning to feel that the strategy of vaccinating the most vulnerable first is having an impact and we are only 2 months in.

Cohort 5 is up next (over 65 year olds) with Cohort 6 (16-65 year olds with various chronic illnesses who essentially would normally be offered the flu jab). There are mutterings in the medical press that Cohort 5 will be invited to vaccinating centres and Cohort 6 will be invited by us. We aren't sure yet if this is a directive or an offer to help out areas that are struggling to deliver vaccines. The “PCN” (Charing, Hamstreet, Ivy Court and Woodchurch) have a meeting on Tuesday to discuss this and I know that our very strong ethos will be that we can deliver this and we want to deliver it. As soon as I know I'll put word out.

It is half-term this week so there is no home schooling for a lot of us (phew). In a parallel universe I was going to be away this week enjoying the snow in Austria. It's a reminder that it is tough across the whole world and hopefully this time next year... maybe.

Finally, I thought the date looked a bit funny yesterday – 12022021 – when done on a calculator it looks the same backwards, forwards and upside down. Covid can't change those little oddities.

Best wishes on behalf of the team,

Jack Hickey GP