



## Harpenden Health PCN COVID Vaccination Update

This is the seventh newsletter in what is a regular update from Harpenden Health Primary Care Network (HPCN) on the mass COVID vaccination programme for our registered patients and local communities.

It is the definitive source for up-to-date factual information.

It will be posted on the three GP Practices websites, where all previous newsletters are easily accessible too. It will also be circulated by The Harpenden Trust.

Harpenden Station has granted the HPCN COVID Vaccination Clinic access to the car park on the same side as the ticket office. Parking options are as follows:



Harpenden Health  
PCN

### Where should I park for my vaccine appointment?"

1. Patient Drop Off Only (in front of Public Halls)
2. Patient/Carer Blue Badge Parking (car park at the rear of Public Halls)
3. Patient/Waiting to Pick Up Parking (station car park town side. Entry near to taxi rank)



### Update:

Harpenden Public Halls opened for COVID vaccinations on Wednesday 13th January 2021. Since then, regular COVID vaccination clinics have been running whenever we have had supplies of vaccine.

Harpenden Public Halls COVID vaccination centre operates by appointment only. Please do not visit us unless you have an appointment as not only does this delay our work, it also increases our risk of catching COVID from an asymptomatic carrier.

We have vaccinated all registered patients in cohorts 1 to 9 who wanted vaccination, and currently we are vaccinating cohort 10 (ages 40-49 years) with first doses. Second doses continue to be given at the appropriate times, usually 77-84 days after the first dose.

What has changed recently is that for first doses the Harpenden Public Halls vaccination centre has switched to the **National Booking Service** which means you can use this service to book a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination or manage your appointments. As appointment can be booked either by

- booking on-line using the link

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

- or by telephoning 119 and pressing option 1 for England and then option 2 for Coronavirus COVID-19 vaccination service

The single biggest advantage in HHPCN switching to using the **National Booking Service** is that it means our patients get their first and second dose appointments at the time of booking. HHPCN and the three Practices will use their websites and social media to give advance notice to our registered patients of when the **Harpenden Public Halls NBS** booking opens, so our patients get first choice of dates.

*You can only use this service if any of the following apply:*

- you're aged 40 or over
- you'll turn 40 before 1 July 2021
- you're at high risk from COVID-19 (clinically extremely vulnerable)
- you have a condition that puts you at higher risk (clinically vulnerable)
- you have a learning disability
- you're an eligible frontline health or social care worker
- you get a Carer's Allowance, get support following an assessment by your local authority or your GP record shows you're a carer.

If you're an eligible unpaid carer but you cannot book an appointment, speak to your GP surgery.

### ***Book your appointments***

You need to:

- have 2 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine at 2 appointments
- book both appointments at the same time
- get the 2nd dose 11 to 12 weeks after getting your 1st dose

You can use this service for someone else.

If you've had a positive COVID-19 test, you should wait 4 weeks from the date you had the test before you book an appointment.

If you were under 30 years old on 30 March 2021, you will not be offered appointments for the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine. There may be fewer appointments available or you may have to travel further.

If you're pregnant, speak to a healthcare professional from your maternity team or GP surgery before booking. It's preferable for you to have the Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna vaccines, which are not available at all vaccination sites.

We understand the concerns about blood clots, the latest information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-vaccination-and-blood-clotting/covid-19-vaccination-and-blood-clotting>

### ***Manage your appointments***

If you already have appointments booked, you can:

- view your appointments
- cancel your appointments
- book appointments again

**If you are in cohort 1 to 10 and have not received your invitation for vaccination yet, or indeed have changed your mind and want to be vaccinated now, then please contact the National Booking Service.**

**As cohorts 11 (30-39 years) and cohort 12 (18-29 years) go live for vaccination, then these also can be booked through the National Booking Service.**

**At the moment, we anticipate cohort 11 will be mid-May onwards and cohort 12 early June.**

### *Progress Report:*

To date around 14,000 first vaccinations and over 7000 second vaccinations have been performed.

HHPCN continues to follow the latest guidance issued by the Joint Committee on Vaccinations and Immunisations (JCVI) last updated on 6/1/2021:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-30-december-2020/joint-committee-on-vaccination-and-immunisation-advice-on-priority-groups-for-covid-19-vaccination-30-december-2020>

Second doses are due to be given around 11 weeks after the first dose and at the same place as the first dose. Currently the only group of people to receive second doses at 3-4 weeks are those about to start immunosuppressive therapy for the first time.

If you have already had your first dose at Harpenden Public Halls, this will have been booked through your GP Practice and they will contact you for your second dose at the appropriate time. If 11 weeks after you received your first dose at Harpenden Public Halls, you have not received your second dose invitation then please contact your Practice:

- If registered with the Village Surgery, please use the online communication service on our website using the heading general enquiry. Please follow this link: <https://www.online-consult.co.uk/org/the-village-surgery-3>
- If registered with Davenport House, please use the contact us section on the Practice website.
- If registered with the Elms Medical Practice, please email [elmsmedical@nhs.net](mailto:elmsmedical@nhs.net)

Please do not just turn up at the vaccination centre without an appointment.

Patients second dose will usually be of the same brand as their first dose. Please remember to bring your card and we will complete it with details of your second dose.

HHPCN has been approved to continue COVID vaccinating in phase 2, everyone over 18 years and between 18-16 years at clinical risk. This will mean that our local vaccination service will continue to operate throughout the summer and that all our patients will not have to travel to mass vaccinations centres.

HHPCN was delighted to receive the Purple Star vaccine recognition award from Hertfordshire County Council. The citation read as follows:

You have

- Provided that person centred approach to overcome the barriers
- provided a clinic that could make reasonable adjustments and addressing issues with passion and commitment that arose
- Successfully vaccinated to date 96% of your learning disability patients !!!!

Thank you so much for taking the time and understanding to achieve such a fantastic success rate. Those people who are reluctant to have the vaccine are the ones who would be likely to equally struggle with the complying with treatment if they did contract COVID19 and required hospitalisation. So every vaccine achieved in this patient group truly is one that has potentially saved a life and that is down to the team work of everyone involved in the planning, supporting and delivering of the vaccines

We Thank You

Cheers

Hilary Gardener

Strategic Liaison Nurse – Primary Health

Hertfordshire County Council

Please use the link below to view previous newsletters and answers to common frequently asked questions (FAQs).

[Dr David Hemsli, Dr Tania Goodwin and Dr Chas Thenuwara  
Harpenden Health PCN \(Primary Care Network\)](#)

[Offering enhanced care and services to the patients of Davenport House Surgery, The Elms Medical Practice & The Village Surgery](#)

For the latest Corona Virus Updates Please Follow the Links Below:

[Davenport House Surgery](#)

[The Elms Medical Practice](#)

[The Village surgery](#)

[Newsletter 1](#)

[Newletter 2](#)

[Newsletter 3](#)

[Newsletter 4](#)

[Newsletter 5](#)

[Newsletter 6](#)