

Media Release

For Immediate Release

15th November 2017

1,000 Flu Vaccinations in 2 Months at Tesco Pharmacy, Clifton Moor, York

North Yorkshire Community Pharmacies are responding to the NHS call to administer free flu vaccinations to vulnerable groups of patients, and keeping more people than ever safe this winter from flu. At the Tesco Community Pharmacy, Clifton Moor they have now protected over 1,000 people by vaccinating North Yorkshire County Councillor Lindsay Burr. She wasn't eligible for free NHS vaccination, but choose to pay for one in order to project herself.



Photo North Yorkshire County Councillor Lindsay Burr MBE and Phyllis Polhill, Pharmacy Dispenser

North Yorkshire County Councillor Lindsay Burr MBE said, "This is such a good and convenient service, no appointment and so quick. I would urge all those eligible to have their flu jab and protect themselves this winter."

Peter Swarbrick, Pharmami and Pharmacy manager said “we are very pleased to offer this no appointment required free service. We actively promote the service to our patients and it’s great that Hayley Cryer the other pharmacist and I have been able to vaccinate and protect them from the effects of flu this year. As winter draws nearer, many people will suffer with ill health, especially older people aged 65 and over and adults with certain medical conditions, and they can benefit from the NHS flu vaccination service. The service helps protect people from health complications through the winter months.”

The FREE national pharmacy flu vaccination service commenced this year on 1st September 2017.

All adult patients who are eligible for NHS flu vaccinations will be able to have them free of charge at local community pharmacies in North Yorkshire.

Flu vaccinations are vital to protect people who would be at risk of health complications if they caught the virus and the NHS aims to vaccinate at least 75% of people who are considered to be in at risk groups. These include pregnant women, people aged 65 years or over, and people with certain medical conditions.

North Yorkshire Pharmacists are trained healthcare professionals and many have been providing flu vaccinations for over five years, both privately and as part of local NHS services.

About the Pharmacy Flu Vaccination Service:

All adults aged 65 years and over, and those aged 18 years or over and in clinical risk groups, can receive a free of charge NHS flu jab at Community Pharmacies across the country, often without the need for an appointment. People in ‘at risk’ groups include pregnant women and those with certain medical conditions including asthma and diabetes (see the full list below). Pharmacists will be using the same vaccination as those offered by GPs and they will be required to notify GPs when they have vaccinated patients.

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For further information contact...

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Editor Notes

Community Pharmacists are regulated healthcare professionals. Their training includes a four-year degree along with a year working in practice followed by examinations. Pharmacists are experts in medicines and are regulated by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC).

There are 153 Community Pharmacies in North Yorkshire. Ninety-five percent of the North Yorkshire population live within a 10 minute drive of a Community Pharmacy, and the vast majority of these have private consultation rooms. Pharmacies use them to provide a range

of public health and other services including services to help people to get the most benefit from their medicines and to lead healthier lives.

Eligible adult patients are people aged 18 years and over at the time of vaccination. They include:

- people aged 65 years and over (including those who will become aged 65 years by 31 March 2016);
- pregnant women;
- carers;
- those in long-stay residential care homes;
- people aged from 18 to less than 65 years of age with one or more of the following medical conditions:
 - chronic (long-term) respiratory disease, such as severe asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or bronchitis;
 - chronic heart disease, such as heart failure;
 - chronic kidney disease at stage three, four or five;
 - chronic liver disease;
 - chronic neurological disease, such as Parkinson's disease or motor neurone disease, or learning disability;
 - diabetes;
 - splenic dysfunction; or
 - a weakened immune system due to disease (such as HIV/AIDS) or treatment (such as cancer treatment).