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23 December 2020



Derby and Derbyshire COVID-19 vaccination programme | Stakeholder bulletin #5

Two new primary care vaccination sites open

Long Eaton Health Centre

Arthur Marriott, an 81-year-old Breaston resident, received his first Covid-19 vaccination at Long Eaton Health Centre on Tuesday afternoon.



Arthur, a lifelong Nottingham Forest supporter and season ticket holder, said, “I feel great and I’d say to anyone don’t hesitate; do it for the community. But I’ll still be taking precautions and won’t forget hands, face, space.”

Vaccinations at Long Eaton are being coordinated by the Erewash Primary Care Network (PCN), which is a collaboration of 13 practices from Long Eaton, Ilkeston and surrounding areas.

Dr Duncan Gooch, who is one of the PCN's Clinical Directors and a GP at The Golden Brook Medical Practice in Long Eaton, said the vaccinations had begun well and patients were positive about the experience.

"It's been a really exciting day. We had our first patients come through at around 9am this morning, and we've been through several hundred in the day," he said.

"Patients have been really positive, and we've had some great interaction with them. Lots of these people haven't been out of the house very often, so coming out and speaking to people has been a real perk for their day. They've overwhelmingly said it's been an easy procedure and much less painful than they expected."

Newholme hospital

Meanwhile, Baslow couple Jim (84) and Pat Reeves (84) were among the first patients to receive their vaccinations at Newholme Hospital on Monday. The couple have been married for 62 years and had their jabs on the same day.



Newholme Hospital was chosen as the hub for Bakewell and surrounding areas, and its vaccination programme is being run by Derbyshire Dales Primary Care Network (PCN), in conjunction with Derbyshire Community Health Services (DCHS). The PCN is a collaborative of 13 GP practices across the Derbyshire Dales.

The PCN's Clinical Director, local GP Dr Ben Milton, [said local doctors and nurses were delighted to be delivering the vaccine to patients](#): "We are very proud to be part of this historic moment. Services have worked incredibly hard to get this site ready to vaccinate, a fantastic collaboration of colleagues from across the NHS and other agencies. It hasn't been simple, but now the vaccines are due to arrive it is a very special moment for everyone involved, and of course for our patients as we start to see some light at the end of the tunnel of this virus."

More primary care sites will be opening up across the region in the coming weeks, and work is underway to begin vaccinations in care homes. Patients should not contact their GP about a vaccination, unless they are contacted directly. A radio campaign has commenced across Derbyshire advising patients of this.

Work will continue throughout the Christmas and New Year holidays with a view to further GP practices and care homes starting vaccinations as soon as possible. It is already expected that up to ten more GP hubs will be up and running during the first two weeks of January.

Oxford/AstraZeneca Vaccine

It has also been confirmed today by Matt Hancock MP, the Secretary of State for Health and Care, that the relevant papers for the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine have been submitted to the Medical Healthcare Research Authority.

This is very exciting news as the potential approval of this vaccine will pave the way to yet more vaccination centres being opened up, as the transport and storage requirements of the this vaccine are much less stringent.

In time, with the availability of both the Pfizer/BioNtech and Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccines, the Covid-19 vaccination programme could start to look very similar to a traditional seasonal influenza vaccination campaign.

Contact

If you have any feedback, or questions, please email us at: ddccg.enquiries@nhs.uk. We are sure you will understand that we are very busy, but we will endeavour to respond to all queries within 72 hours.

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