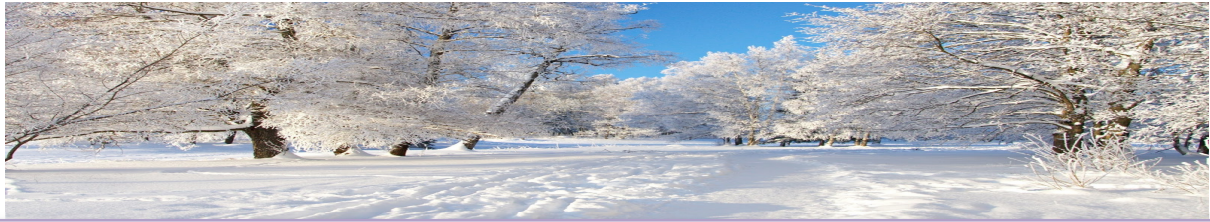


**Drs Rogbeer, Irelewuyi & Prabhu
Homestead Medical Centre
Winter Newsletter 2022**



Flu Vaccines

It is not too late to have your winter flu vaccine. If you are over 65 years old or have a long term condition we still have vaccines available. We will be holding a clinic on Saturday 19th November, this will be our last Saturday flu clinic. Please call reception on 01924 384498 who will be able to book you an appointment . Nasal flu vaccines are also available for children.

Here are some of the lovely comments we have received recently as part of our Patient Feedback:

- ❖ Encouraging and knowledgeable advice from practice nurse Helen. Engaged with my concerns and provided solutions. Thank you.
- ❖ I can say every appointment I have received with you has been very good and the staff are all very nice.
- ❖ Can't complain, the First Contact Practitioner (FCP) listened to me and understood my anxiety and went into details and reassured me that the pain I was having was muscular.
- ❖ I never get a bad 'service' when I attend for an appointment or even on the phone.
- ❖ All staff were very polite and friendly and made me feel both welcome and safe.
- ❖ Excellent GPs & Nurses and never any problems getting an appointment

Truth or Myth?

Homestead Medical Centre does not have face to face GP appointments?

This is myth.

Every day our GPs have mixed clinics of telephone triage appointments **and** face to face appointments.

Some of the face to face appointments are pre-bookable, unfortunately these get booked up very quickly so we have to reserve some of the face to face appointments for book on the day.

Christmas Opening Times

The Practice will be closed on Saturday 24th December, Sunday 25th December, Monday 26th December, Tuesday 27th December, Saturday 31st December, Sunday 1st January and Monday 2nd January.

If you require non urgent medical assistance on these Bank Holiday days, please call the main surgery number on 01924 384498 and the recorded message will re-direct you to NHS111 or the Out of Hours Service by GP Care Wakefield.

Covid Winter Booster Vaccines

This winter COVID 19 Booster vaccines will be available for patients to book. The eligible groups are as follows:

- Residents in Care Homes
- Staff in Care Homes
- Frontline Health and Social Care workers
- Patients Age 75y and over
- Age 16 to <50y + at risk (adult groups)
- Age 50 to <75y

These are the patients to date that have been uploaded to our Local booking service at Sandal Rugby club. (other sites will be available through National Booking system or call 119) SMS message will be sent out to patients who are suitable. Our admin staff are also working through patients who do not have a mobile number who will be manually contacted to book.

The National booking system will also be sending letters and text messages to book at different sites. If you do not wish to have the vaccine can you please let reception know so this can be declined and removed from the call list.

Meet our new Mental Health Nurse Sarah Harris

Hi, I'm Sarah Harris a Primary Care Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, I have been qualified and working within mental health for over 13 years. I have had the opportunity to develop my experience through various areas of mental health throughout this time. I have recently started a job within Connexus in Primary Care GP Practices and will therefore be based at your practice at points throughout the week. This gives patients the opportunity to discuss any mental health concerns that they may have with a mental health practitioner and enable early access to mental health support and/or treatment to promote a person's wellbeing. I will have a mixture of telephone and face to face appointments that you can book into via the receptionists.

IMPORTANT: Changes to the ordering of repeat prescriptions

From 1st February 2023 we will no longer be accepting paper requests for repeat prescriptions.

Many patients have commented over time that they would prefer to telephone the practice to order their medication, we have listened to what you have said and have purchased some software that will allow you to order your medication over the telephone 24 hours a day 7 days per week.

You can use the new system by calling the main surgery number and selecting option 2 or you can dial the number direct on **01924 663064**

For the past few years we have had a 'reverse advent calendar' box in reception for donations of food items. Staff and patients are welcome to donate food items that we will then deliver to a local food bank to help those who are struggling at this particular time of year. If you are able to donate something like a tin of beans or a packet of pasta, please bring it down with you when you are next in. All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you