



# Marsh Medical Practice

## Spring 2021 Patient Newsletter

### Covid-19 update

As we are all aware, the cases of Covid-19 are reducing thanks to social distancing restrictions and the vaccination programme. Thank you to all of you who have followed the Government guidelines – because of your vigilance and hard work, the local cases of Covid are (currently at time of writing) low. We would urge you to continue to follow the social distancing restrictions – we are all desperate to see our loved ones again but please don't risk another surge in cases.

Marsh will continue to undertake telephone consultations where possible and only invite patients to attend the surgery if required. This approach has proven to be very popular with some of our patients who have found a telephone appointment much more convenient.

**Vaccinations** – the NHS vaccination programme has been a huge success and has had to adapt processes in line with supply of the vaccine. The programme has aimed to vaccinate as many people as quickly as possible, with the most vulnerable to complications of Covid to have priority. Marsh may be advised at short notice that a quantity of vaccine is available and be asked to contact the next patients on the priority list. Please be aware that we have no involvement or control over the prioritisation list, which vaccine is available or how many vaccines are available. Marsh are told which patients to contact and when. Please refrain from contacting the surgery to ask when your vaccination will be due – we will notify you as soon as we are told your turn has come. Calls regarding this matter block the telephone lines and we are unable to provide you with any more information- any updates will be posted on our website should they occur.

### Long term conditions

Throughout the worst of the pandemic, we have continued to undertake regular reviews for long term conditions such as diabetes and asthma. Whilst we understand that some of you feel that the NHS is busy enough at the moment, we urge you to respond to invites for your review even if you feel well. These regular reviews are in place to manage your long term condition so that you remain as healthy as possible and early changes can be identified. Please help us to help you and attend your scheduled reviews.

### Lateral flow tests

It has been recently announced that Covid-19 lateral flow tests will soon be available for all. These tests are currently undertaken by school pupils and staff, NHS workers and other key worker groups. They are very easy to use and provide a result within 30 minutes. The tests will not be provided by GP practices so please look out for TV adverts advising you of how to access this service or go to [www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests](http://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)

### Every Mind Matters

Every Mind Matters is committed to promoting good mental health. They have expert advice and practical tips to help you look after your mental health and wellbeing. As with all medical matters, prevention is better than cure so please take the time to look after your mental health. For more information please see [www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/](http://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/)

### Surgery improvements

You may have noticed some changes to the surgeries. The reception and dispensary are being updated at Manby and a new clinical room is being added at North Somercotes. Apologies for any short term disruption but you will hopefully see a huge improvement shortly.