

January 2018**Overview**

NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is responsible for commissioning a broad range of healthcare for the population of Wiltshire. We are led by experienced local GPs drawn from across the county, who provide clear clinical leadership to the big decisions affecting the future of healthcare provision in Wiltshire, carefully tailored to meet the differing needs of people locally.

Our vision is to ensure the provision of a health service which is high quality, effective, clinically-led and local. We are committed to delivering healthcare that meets the needs of Wiltshire people, to consult and engage with our population to enable them to be involved in decisions made about health services and to deliver those services to people in their own homes or as close to home as possible.

The right healthcare, for you, with you, near you

News from the CCG!**Winter Pressures guidance issued from NHS National Emergency Pressure Panel**

NHS England has issued guidance in line with the new Winter Pressures Protocol. The guidance, which is issued to hospitals, extends the deferral of all non-urgent inpatient elective care to free up capacity for the sickest patients to January 31. The panel reiterated that cancer operations and time-critical procedures should go ahead as planned. Over and above this, day-case producers and routine outpatient appointments should also be deferred where this will release clinical time for non-elective care.

For more information read the [official letter from Pauline Phillip](#), National Director, Urgent and Emergency Care, NHS England and NHS Improvement to systems, and the [press statement](#) from the National Pressure Panel.

Out of hours service for children in South Wiltshire

An out of hours GP service for children aged 0 – 10 years in Salisbury and South Wiltshire means parents can now book a same day appointment to see a GP at the Salisbury Walk in Health Centre.

This extended service will provide out of hours GP health advice and treatment for minor illnesses and injuries from Monday to Friday between 6.30pm – 10pm, and will provide partners with a local alternative to A&E when their child is ill.



Parents should ring NHS 111 to access the service. If necessary, the call handler will then advise parents to contact the Salisbury Walk in Health Centre to make a same day appointment.

Have your say!

Urgent GP appointments – where would you go?

If you need a same day urgent GP appointment – this could mean that you might not be able to see your usual GP and you may have to travel to a different practice.

Urgent GP appointments are booked on the day and are for patients who have health problems which cannot wait for a routine appointment.

We want to hear your views on accessing urgent GP appointments.

Tell us what you think by completing this [short survey](#).



Have your say on the organ donor 'opt out' consultation

People who donate their organs and tissue after they die help save thousands of lives in England each year. However, 3 people die a day due to lack of suitable organs. Under current rules, a person who has died can only be an organ donor if they have agreed to it when they were alive.



If the law changes, people will be considered to be an organ donor unless they have opted out. This would increase the number of organs donated and save more money.

The Department of Health's 'opt out' [consultation](#) is now live – take a few minutes to share your views on the proposed new rules.

Campaign – stay well this winter

Winter can be seriously bad for our health, especially for people aged 65 or older and people with long term conditions.

The cold and damp weather, ice, snow and high winds can all aggravate any existing health problems and make us more vulnerable to illnesses that are more common in winter.

We have put together some handy information to help you stay well this winter.

**Stay well this winter
and have the flu jab**



Have you had your flu vaccination?

Flu strikes in winter and can be far more serious than you think – it can lead to serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia and in some instances it can be deadly.

That's why it's important that people who are at increased risk from flu, have their free flu vaccination.

If you are:

- Pregnant
- Aged 65 or over
- Have a long term health condition
- Living in a residential care home
- A carer
- Living with someone who is immunocompromised
- Are a frontline health or social care worker

This year more children are being vaccinated, and children over 6 months old with a long term health condition, and children aged two and three are offered the vaccination in general practice.

Children in reception class and school years 1, 2 3 & 4 will be offered the vaccine at school.

If you're eligible for a free flu vaccination and not yet had it, speak to your surgery and make an appointment today!

Get advice from your pharmacist

Winter can make existing health problems worse, so if you feel you are coming down with something, even if it's just a cough or cold, don't wait until it gets worse – act quickly and get advice from a pharmacist.

Pharmacists are fully qualified to advise you on the best course of action when you start to feel unwell, and this can be the best and quickest way to help you recover and feel healthy.



Most pharmacies now have a private consultation area, so you can discuss your health issues in confidence and you don't need to make an appointment.

Is your medicine cabinet fit for the winter?

Be prepared for common ailments by keeping a well stocked medicine cabinet at home.

What to keep in your medicine cabinet



Always keep medicines out of the reach