

MEADOWBANK GENERAL PRACTICE

A Foundation Standard accredited practice
25 St Johns Road Meadowbank Telephone: 521 5128 all hours

June 2017

Exciting news - we are relocating!

Our lease on 25 St Johns Road expires at the end of September and we are delighted to announce we have found new premises just along the road at Meadowbank Shopping Mall. We've taken a very nice space there and we will now be fitting that out to be smart, modern medical rooms. So we will have brand new furnished rooms to work out of. All the Doctors, Nurses and Receptionists of MGP are excited by the move. We are sure you will be pleased with the results and the greater convenience - especially parking - that this location will bring.

HPV Vaccine

HPV immunisation is now funded [i.e. free] for everyone aged 9–26 (inclusive)

The vaccine is given as two doses to those aged 14 years and under, and three doses to those aged 15 years and older.

The vaccine is offered to boys and girls through participating schools at Year 8, around age 12. HPV immunisation is also available free at the practice from 9 years of age to prevent cancers in men and women.

An increasing proportion of mouth and throat cancers, which affect men at higher rates than women, are caused by HPV. HPV can cause cancers in men. HPV immunisation has been recommended (but not funded) for boys for several years in New Zealand and many other countries. Those not part of the school vaccination programme can receive this vaccine free of charge from our nurses.

HPV vaccines are relatively expensive and were initially funded to prevent the most common HPV-related cancer, cervical cancer, which affects only women.

Immunisation with Gardasil 9 can prevent infection with:

- the seven HPV types that cause nine out of ten HPV-related cancers
- the two HPV types that cause nine out of ten cases of genital warts

The vaccine is given by injection in the upper arm. Two injections are given at least six months apart for those aged 14 and under. Those aged 15 and over will need three doses to be fully protected.

From 1st July Varilrix [Chicken Pox] vaccine will be funded for one dose at 15 months old

PLEASE NOTE - FLU VACCINATION IS AVAILABLE UNTIL THE END OF DECEMBER 2017

Jonathan Fox David Henry Lynette Henry Margaret Goodey Felicity Ludbrook

PATIENTS CAN NOW MAKE APPOINTMENTS ON LINE AT www.mgpdoctors.nz

Stop Smoking Campaign – Ready Steady Quit

The Ministry of Health is having a campaign to get New Zealand Smoke Free. Please do not be offended when we ask you about your smoking habits. We have plenty of resources available to assist you in giving up this expensive unhealthy habit. Please call 0800 500 601 or visit readysteadyquit.org.nz for information and support.

Travel advice

To streamline travel arrangements and make the process more straightforward we have introduced a travel medicine protocol. Please provide us with your itinerary ideally via e-mail to nurses@mgpdoctors.nz at least one month before travel. We will then provide you with advice on immunisations and whether a doctor's appointment is also needed. There will be a fee for our nurses' time in researching this information and other charges will apply as usual for immunisations and appointments. We have a brief document with more information on the process- please ask reception for a copy.

Planning your appointment

It is very important that you make appointments for routine matters ahead of time.

We cannot offer a same day appointment service for all routine matters. Obviously urgent matters will always be attended to by us or the local After Hours Clinic

Free After Hours Advice

This practice is part of the Auckland wide initiative bringing free after hours telephone advice for all our patients.

To access this please phone our usual Surgery number 521 5128 after hours

You will then be speaking to our Nurse triage service. The Nurses can give you free advice and if necessary help you access reduced cost after hours care if you are eligible. Our participating After Hours Clinic is Ascot but always phone 521 5128 first, as we may be able to save you an unnecessary visit and consultation fee.

Administration Fees

Our consultation fee covers the cost of the 15-minute consultation. Often we have work to do on your behalf outside of the appointment – forms to be filled in, referral letters to be written and liaising with outside agencies. Like all other professionals, we will be charging for these services. Depending on the time taken, a referral letter fee may be up to \$30 for a letter that requires work outside of the consultation.

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