## **2021 INFLUENZA VACCINATION INFORMATION**

At Bibra Lake Medical Centre we are expecting to start the Influenza Vaccination on or after the 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Vaccination against Influenza remains important this year. Vaccination experts recommend Influenza Vaccination for all people aged 6 months and over. The National Immunisation Program (NIP) funds Influenza Vaccines for people most at risk.

If you go ahead and get your flu vaccination first, you will need to wait at least 2 weeks before getting your COVID-19 Vaccination.

The Australian Govt. recommends that when scheduling influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations:

- People in <u>earlier phases</u> for COVID-19 vaccination should have the COVID-19 vaccine as soon they can, and then plan their influenza vaccination.
- People in <u>later phases</u> for COVID-19 vaccination should have the influenza vaccine as soon as they can, and then have the COVID-19 vaccine when it is available to them.

You can either have the COVID-19 or FLU vaccination first, it does not matter as long as there is a minimum of 2 weeks between shots.

The Influenza Vaccination is a single dose administration whereas the COVID-19 Vaccination is a 2-dose administration that is to be 12 weeks apart.

Look at your calendar and plan your vaccinations for 2021.

People can use the <u>COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker</u> to see if they can book a COVID-19 vaccination yet.

If you need further clarification, we will be happy to assist you in planning your vaccination dates.

In the meantime, continue to protect yourself and your family against COVID-19. Follow public health precautions as required in your state or territory to stop the spread of COVID-19 including:

- keep your distance stay at least 1.5 metres away from other people
- washing your hands often with soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
- wear a mask, if your state or territory has advised that you should
- stay home if you are unwell with cold or flu-like symptoms and arrange to get a COVID-19 test