



Important information for GP practices across Kent and Medway
Tuesday 14 July 2020

Weekly primary care sitrep survey

Thank you for supporting the primary care sitrep survey and continuing to complete it each week. The [summary of last week's responses](#) is available for your information.

As you may be aware, one of the priorities across the NHS workforce at the moment is the completion of individual Covid-19 risk assessments for all staff across the health economy. Assurance is being sought by NHS England that progress is being made towards the completion of risk assessments in primary care and, therefore, guidance and questions have been included in the sitrep this week in order to support gaining this assurance.

Please make sure that one person from each practice completes the weekly sitrep here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/62MD2B7> by **11am on Thursday 16 July.**

Clinical advice and support

Update on shielding

The Department of Health and Social Care has updated its guidance for shielding patients. Read [the full document](#).

Second phase of general practice response to Covid-19

You may have already seen the second phase of general practice [response to Covid-19 update letter](#). All of NHS England's [updates and guidance for general practice](#) can be found online.

Key principles for intimate clinical assessments undertaken remotely

This guidance from the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) is aimed at clinicians who are consulting remotely with patients through a digital channel (e.g. online, email, text, video-link) across healthcare settings in England. The document [is available online](#).

The CCG's safeguarding team will be sending out a summary sheet outlining actions for general practice in the near future. The team can be contacted via: kmccg.safeguarding@nhs.net

Webinar: Perinatal support for BAME women during Covid-19

Research has found that pregnant black women were eight times more likely to be admitted to hospital with coronavirus than pregnant white women, while pregnant Asian women were four times more likely. Prof. Jacqueline Dunkley-Bent, Chief Midwifery Officer in England, has written to all maternity service providers asking doctors and midwives to provide more checks and

support to black, Asian and ethnic-minority (BAME) pregnant women because of their greater risk from coronavirus.

Hear about the experiences of women who are giving birth during Covid-19, the support for South East Maternity Service providers and innovative good practice that has been undertaken to support this initiative.

[Join the webinar](#) on 22 July from 3pm to 4.30pm.

NICE consultation on workplace health: long-term sickness absences and capability to work

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has launched a consultation to inform a quality standard on workplace health which has been commissioned by the Department of Health and Social Care. The quality standard will cover how to help people return to work after long-term sickness absence, reduction of recurring sickness absence, and prevention of moving from short-term to long-term sickness absence. The consultation asks organisations to submit evidence for the key areas for improvement that will have the greatest potential to improve the quality of care in this area. To submit a response fill in the [Comments form](#) and email it to QStopicengagement@nice.org.uk by 5 pm Monday 27 July.

New content added to the domestic violence and abuse e-learning programme

Health Education England's domestic violence and abuse e-learning package aims to equip health visitors and nurses with the skills and knowledge to enable them to provide a proactive, responsive and safe service to families experiencing domestic violence and abuse. The first two

sessions, “Understanding domestic violence and abuse” and “Identification of domestic violence and abuse”, will benefit all health and care workforce to understand domestic violence and identify individuals at risk.

The new content covers four new introductory modules to complement the existing sessions. The e-learning has been developed following a refresh of the evidence, policy and legislation on domestic violence and abuse. Each of the four e-learning modules last around 30-45 minutes. The following sessions are now available:

- Understanding domestic violence and abuse
- Identification of domestic violence and abuse
- Risk assessment for victims of domestic violence and abuse
- Safety planning and support for families.

[More information](#) about the domestic violence and abuse programme, including details of how to access, is online.

Education and training for NHS staff in community health services supporting the response to Covid-19

As part of the NHS response to Covid-19, we want to support healthcare staff across community health service settings by bringing together free, accessible education and training resources in a single place. A [number of resources](#) are available which will ensure staff feel comfortable and confident in their roles during the pandemic and provide guidance in tandem with further support, including face-to-face training. Topics include PPE, infection control and other role-specific guidance.

Data protection webinar

The CCG's data protection team are planning a series of webinars for practice managers on MS Teams. The first is on Wednesday 29 July at 10-11am.

Items on the agenda include an introduction to the DPO team and Covid-19 processes. If you would like to join, please [email the team](#).

NHS England's primary care bulletin

Last Friday's Covid-19 primary care bulletin from NHS England includes information on education and training, rehab service and training hubs. The [bulletin is available here](#).

Update: ReSPECT forms

In a recent bulletin, there was a letter circulated from SECamb about how to complete and upload ReSPECT forms so that ambulance crews could review them. We have had a number of queries about this and so wanted to clarify the current position with ReSPECT in Kent and Medway.

At the moment in Kent and Medway we are not using the ReSPECT process across the system. There is a lot of interest and clinical support for ReSPECT in different parts of the Kent and Medway system but we have not yet had the opportunity to agree implementation. ReSPECT is a process, rather than just a care planning form and good quality implementation needs sign up from clinicians across the system and a carefully planned programme of training and communication.

Prior to Covid-19 we had started to scope implementation in east Kent but this was paused during the Covid-19 response and a short term Treatment Escalation Plan (TEP) was introduced. Through the Kent and Medway End

of Life Group, we are now looking at whether there is support to scope implementation for the whole of Kent and Medway but these are early discussions. As part of these discussions we will look at existing anticipatory care planning systems in place, the learning from Covid-19 and use of the TEP.

At the moment therefore, there is no expectation on practices to complete the ReSPECT documentation. If there are primary care clinicians who would like to be more involved in the Kent and Medway discussions about ReSPECT then they should contact [Rosie Baur](#) or [Clare Thomas](#).

Infection prevention and control

Zoning in primary care

As you are aware, the CCG is in the process of finalising a document to support the progress towards zoning within GP practices. We have been informed that further guidance regarding Primary Care Treatment Centres is due to be issued and with this in mind, we wanted to ensure that the most up to date information was included, so the guidance will be delayed until the national guidance issued. It is anticipated that this will be within the next week.

Local area updates

Medway and Swale

Message from James Devine, Chief Executive, Medway NHS Foundation Trust

Work is currently underway across the organisation to develop our Trust Improvement Plan and we have already begun to make some excellent progress.

Our Improvement Plan sets out the key things we will focus on over the next two years, with the core aim of embedding improvements in the quality of care we provide at Medway.

The Improvement Plan is clinically led, and outcome-focused, which means clinical staff are developing and leading the changes. There is a lot to do, but we know we can improve in many areas, guided by a clear vision, and with staff who live the Trust's values and have the right skills and experience.

We want to ensure that you, as one of our Trust's key stakeholders, have an opportunity to be involved in the development of the plan and I am delighted to include a [draft version](#) for your comments.

The plan is due to be considered by our Trust Board on Thursday 6 August, so please send any feedback you have to communications.medwayft@nhs.net no later than Friday 31 July.

If you have any feedback or ideas to make the updates more useful to you please email kmccg.gpscovid19@nhs.net



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Useful links

- [Weekly stakeholder bulletin](#)

The deadline for articles for this update is 11am on Mondays.

Produced by:

- [Offers for NHS staff](#)

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