



Important information for GP practices across Kent and Medway
Tuesday 13 October 2020

Weekly primary care sitrep

Thank you for continuing to take part in completing the sitrep. The summary of last week's responses can be found [here](#).

NHS England has asked the CCG to assess practices' state of readiness in starting a programme of digitising your Lloyd George notes. Funding has been made available and the CCG has been asked to group practices into cohorts. Please don't worry about selecting the wrong cohort or changing your mind; this first request is just to gauge where practices feel they currently sit.

Please can you make sure that one person from each practice completes the weekly sitrep here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/62MD2B7> by **11am on Thursday 15 October**.

Clinical advice and support

GP clinical leads

Here is [the current list](#) of GP clinical leads across Kent and Medway. We will continue to distribute it through this update as further appointments are made.

Clinical lead for the East Kent Transformation Programme

The East Kent Transformation Programme is looking for an experienced clinical professional to be our new Clinical Lead, working alongside the lead deputy governing body elected member for the programme. To succeed, you will need to be passionate about making a difference to patient care and have the drive and passion within a particular clinical field or expertise to be able to develop and contribute to the implementation of new transformative care pathways across east Kent. Further information is [available here](#) and an application form can be [downloaded here](#). The closing date for applications is 5 pm on 6 November.

General practice webinars

The regular General Practice webinar with Nikki Kanani (GP and Medical Director for Primary Care) and Ed Waller (Director for Primary Care Strategy and NHS Contracts) gives an update on the latest policy around general practice and includes guest speakers from relevant policy areas. There are also opportunities to ask questions.

Following feedback during the last webinar and the volume of information to share, they now aim for these to take place fortnightly. The next General Practice Webinar is on Thursday 15 October, from 5pm - 6pm. To attend you need to [register in advance](#) however to make the process easier, they will now be using a rolling registration system, so if you have registered for the previous webinar on 1 October you will **not** need to register again.

National data

Slides from the NHS data briefing on 12 October are now [available here](#). They give a national picture of infection by age and geography amongst other data.

Communications

Letter to all GP practices

Last Friday (9 October) all GP practices were sent a letter by email from Caroline Selkirk, KMCCG Executive Director for Health Improvement and Dr Navin Kumta, KMCCG Clinical Chair. They wanted to both recognise the tremendous work you and your colleagues have done, and continue to do on a day to day basis, to support your patients and to set out the further support the CCG plans to provide over the coming months. [Here is a copy.](#)

Help Us to Help You campaign

The NHS and Public Health England have launched a campaign that addresses the barriers that are deterring patients from accessing NHS services and the possible consequences. This first phase focuses on encouraging the public to contact their GP if they are worried about a symptom that could be cancer. Please see the [campaign toolkit](#) for current materials. Further phases of the campaign focusing on specific cancers, maternity services, elective care and mental health will launch over the next few months. Your help in supporting this important campaign is greatly appreciated.

Flu

Additional vaccines

Guidance on how to [access additional flu vaccines](#) is now available from DHSC.

This guidance explains the process to access the government's additional vaccines from the central supply. Should practices deliver all vaccines from their own stock, they can place orders from mid-October with suppliers for the government-secured stock to be delivered from November. These vaccines will be provided to those at-risk groups, 65s and over, pregnant women and those with pre-existing conditions, as well as frontline health and social care workers.

Those aged 50 to 64 will also be eligible for a free vaccine but will be invited later in the season. Once they're invited, they will be eligible to receive vaccines from the government-secured supply.

Eligible cohorts

PHE has published a flow chart [detailing the eligible cohorts](#) and the required vaccine.

Patient enquiries

A statement has also been published on [flu vaccines and supply for the national programme](#), which can be used when answering questions from patients, along with a public leaflet: [Flu vaccine supplies and why you need to wait for your vaccine](#).

Primary care flu toolkit

The Screening and Immunisation Team recently has updated the [primary care flu toolkit](#). This includes details for healthcare professionals on the inactivated vaccine and the childhood flu programme, the latest version of the LMC flu operational guide, [information on the VAA](#), a [subcontracting checklist](#) and the MHRA [vaccine transfer guidance](#). For further information please contact your Screening and Immunisation Team at phst@nhs.net

Local Area updates

Medway

Urgent response service

The urgent response service provides a single point of access to support unwell patients in [their own homes](#) and [care homes](#), avoiding hospital admissions. The intensive, short-term multidisciplinary service is an amalgamation of a number of services to support patients and other services in Medway. It aims to prevent hospital admission/readmission following an event or short-term illness impacting on the patient's ability to cope at home or an exacerbation of their long-term condition.

The benefits of being treated at home include reducing the risk of infections, making it easier for patients to be involved in the decision-making process and allowing for assessment and treatments to be based around the patient's specific requirements and environment. The team consists of:

- Advanced community practitioners
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- Community paramedics
- Respiratory unwell service: Respiratory specialist nurses
- Therapists
- Care managers.

The team includes prescribers and will have clinical support from MEDOCC The service will operate seven days a week, 24 hours a day (with some exclusions, outlined in the linked documents).

Please share this update with colleagues who are [welcome to subscribe](#) to the mailing list.

Previous issues of the GP Practice Update [are available online](#).

If you have any feedback or ideas to make the updates more useful to you [please email](#).

Read the CCG's latest [Prescribing Newsletter](#) and [Which Script](#), along with [supply shortage alerts](#).

Useful links

- [Offers for NHS staff](#)
- [NHS England primary care bulletin](#)
- [Kent and Medway Medicines Optimisation Newsletters](#)

Produced by the communications team, NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group

