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# Primary Care Connect

THE WEEKLY PRIMARY CARE UPDATE FOR  
HAMPSHIRE AND THE ISLE OF WIGHT

Issue 30 | 22 December 2021

The next edition will be on 5 January, 2022

Dear colleagues,



Thank you for all your work in 2021. We hope [this short video brings a smile to your face!](#)

#### **Best wishes**

**Dr Nicola Decker, clinical lead, Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight CCG**

**Dr Linda Collie, clinical lead, Portsmouth CCG**

**Dr Sarah Young, clinical director, Southampton**

**Dr Karl Graham, clinical director, South West**

**Dr Charlotte Hutchings, clinical director, North and Mid**

**Dr Zaid Hirmiz, clinical director, South East**

**Dr Michele Legg, clinical director, Isle of Wight**

**Dr Matt Nisbet, COVID-19 vaccination programme lead, Hampshire and Isle of Wight**

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## **Updated guidance for staff coming into contact with COVID-19 positive cases**



The UK Health Security Agency (HSA) has updated its guidance for NHS staff, students and volunteers for self-isolation and return to work following COVID-19 contact.

In the [updated HSA guidance](#), it specifies that staff who are contacts of someone

confirmed COVID-19 positive  
must:

- Stay at home and self-isolate if not fully vaccinated
- If fully vaccinated (i.e. a staff member has received two vaccine doses and is 14 days post second vaccination), arrange a PCR test and return to work if it is confirmed negative (if positive, isolate for 10 days, however this can be reduced to seven days for people who receive negative results from lateral flow tests taken 24 hours apart on day six and day seven of their isolation period)
- If the test is negative, complete daily lateral flow tests before attending work each day for 10 days and seek a repeat PCR in the event of any positive lateral flow test

## Tell us about your COVID-19 walk-in vaccination clinics!



A huge thank you to everyone who continues to work tirelessly to step up the COVID-19 vaccination offer even further across Hampshire and Isle of Wight.

To ensure the communications team can promote your walk-in COVID-19 clinics in a timely way via the CCG website, social media and other appropriate channels, please do share details of new clinics, or any amends to clinics, as soon as possible.



Practices who are looking for locum cover over the next few months are encouraged to [sign up free to LocumDeck](#).

The National Association of Sessional GPs (NASGP) is providing the service, of which currently 41 of our 145 practices across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight are signed up to.

If there are no GPs offering availability for you to instantly book, then you can use the Request Availability feature to notify local GP locums that you are looking for cover.

For further information or support, [contact Ali Lewis](#), membership support manager, for NASGP.

## Healthier Together app available for download



**Worried about the health of a child or young person?**

- Coughs
- Cold
- Fever
- Asthma
- Earache
- Abdominal pain
- Head injury
- Rashes
- Conjunctivitis
- Bronchiolitis
- Croup

**NHS**

**Healthier Together**  
Improving the health of children and young people

Visit: [what0-18.nhs.uk](http://what0-18.nhs.uk)

**Message from:**

**Sanjay Patel - clinical lead for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICS children's programme and Healthier Together programme**

**Dr Tom Bertram, Clinical Director, Sovereign Health Network**

Rates of urgent care activity for young children (0-5 years) are higher than for any

other age group.

The vast majority of this activity is self-limiting minor illness (upper respiratory tract infections, lower respiratory tract infections, D&V, rashes and fever).

Unfortunately, much of this activity is driven by a lack of parental confidence in distinguishing minor illness from severe illness. This appears to have been exacerbated due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Healthier Together red/amber/green stratification has been implemented across HIOW for the past five years, however the online resources are still not widely used - you can find them here - [www.what0-18.nhs.uk](http://www.what0-18.nhs.uk).

The Healthier Together team have recently developed an app (for children aged 0-18 years). The offer to parents is that if the child has an amber disposition, the parent can send an online message directly to the practice, rather than calling.

This approach has been piloted in the Sovereign PCN in Fareham. It resulted in the majority of 'consultations' being designated a green outcome (ie self-care).

Please take a look at the app.

The ICS has funded the rollout of the Healthier Together app so that it can be implemented at GP practice/PCN at no cost to the practice. The app is customisable by the GP practice/PCN so that the online 'amber' messages can be sent to a specific mailbox within the practice. The hours that this occurs can be customised and the practice can default to "phone the practice" for amber dispositions if required.

More detailed information about the app, the pilot evaluation within the Sovereign PCN and integration within primary care pathways is available for you to read.

To take up this offer please complete the online form and a member of the app team will contact you. If you are planning to implement the app across a PCN, simply submit one online request listing the practices involved.

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**How to submit a story for the bulletin - we**

**want your news!**



If you have any content you would like to see included in Primary Care Connect then we would love to hear from you.

When you submit a story please provide the following:

- **A short headline**
- **A few paragraphs to say what the story is**
- **Clearly include any links or documents that accompany the piece**
- **A suitable image or a suggestion of the type of image to go with the piece**

Deadline for content is **midday Tuesday**. Items submitted after this will be considered as to whether it needs to be included in the following day's bulletin, or if it can be held for an extra week.

Please send content to [hsiccg.gpportal@nhs.net](mailto:hsiccg.gpportal@nhs.net)

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Primary Care Connect Portal

Wessex LMC

NHS England bulletin



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