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Primary Care Connect

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

Issue 33 | 20 January 2022

Dear colleagues,

This week we would like to give you an update about the Multi Agency Discharge Events (MADE) that we have been doing across the system.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the great work you have been doing to keep our patients safe and managing them in the right place, and our thanks too to everyone in the system who is helping with the MADE.

In response to the recent national reset letter, system partners from across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight have been coming together to undertake MADE. The key aims are to:

- support improved patient flow across the system (in both the acute and community



- recognise and unblock any delays in the processes, e.g. pharmacy, and transport and family circumstances
- challenge, improve and simplify the ward discharge processes in hospitals

This MADE should galvanise our system teams and be used as our 'call to action' for the next three months to manage the expected surge.

MADE started last week and is a clinically-led programme with multi-agency support. Participants will form a number of teams, each of which will focus on one or two wards.

In some areas this week's events will extend across two days on site, with an expectation that the multi-disciplinary teams will gather insights and learning that will help to improve processes that contribute to improving patient outcomes and experience by bringing additional focus and working to:

- capture, identify and implement opportunities for rapid pathway improvement
- support improved patient flow through the hospital to increase the number of patients that go home on the day they no longer meet criteria to reside in hospital
- highlight, challenge and unblock delays (internal and external)
- support safe and timely discharges.

So, in summary, we want to:

- unblock delays and simplify processes across the whole system
- free up beds and increase flow as part of the escalation process
- reduce the length of stay
- increase the number of morning discharges

We will share the learnings and outcomes with you once we have completed the events.

Best wishes

Zaid Hirmiz - Clinical Director

South East Hampshire area of Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight CCG

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Reminder to share data on number of unvaccinated staff in practices



Thank you to our GP practice teams who have been able to share information regarding the number of front-facing staff who have not taken up the offer of having a COVID-19 vaccination.

New legislation means that all healthcare staff who have any contact with patients as part of their work are required by law to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by 1 April 2022.

This affects staff in primary care as well as hospitals and means all eligible staff need to have had their **first dose by 3 February** at the latest in order to complete the vaccination course by 1 April.

We need to understand how this new legislation will impact our workforce in primary care across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. If you have not done so already, please could you take a few minutes to [complete our questionnaire](#) to let us know how many of your staff in different staff groups remain unvaccinated. Please can you **complete this by Friday 21 January**.

The data collected will be held locally by the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care System (ICS), and the numbers per PCN will be shared with region in order to help build a national picture.

Updated guidance on self-isolation following positive COVID-19 test



The [UK Health Security Agency](#) has updated its guidance for self-isolation for NHS staff.

Staff who test positive will be able to leave self-isolation and return to work, if you test negative on days five and six after the date of your initial positive test, 24 hours apart, and providing you are medically fit.

The change came into effect from Monday, 17 January.

This means if a staff member tests negative on the morning of day six and were negative 24 hours earlier, they can return to work on day six.

To mitigate any potential increased risk of transmission, NHS England and NHS Improvement require that all NHS staff then continue to test daily to day 10 after their initial positive test and stop at day 10 unless you remain or test positive.

For those that continue to test positive, if at day 10 you still test positive, you must continue to isolate and continue to daily lateral flow device (LFD) test until a negative result or until day 14. If still positive at that point it is considered unlikely you are infectious so can return to work providing you are medically fit.

Accelerating patient access to their health records online



From April, patients with online accounts such as through the NHS App will be able to read

new entries in their health record.

This applies to patients whose practices use the TPP and EMIS systems.

The Hampshire Southampton and Isle of Wight CCG's digital primary care team have been attending webinars held by NHSX and [produced a summary of the key messages and useful links](#).

Within the slidedeck are also dates and times for February webinar sessions if you would like to attend.

What to do if anti-vax protesters arrive at your vaccination site



Following recent online anti-vaccination activity, Hampshire Constabulary is aware that several groups are calling for “two days of national action against the vaccine programme” in January.

Hampshire Constabulary has confirmed that the force has, to date, seen no specific intelligence regarding any mass demonstration in either Portsmouth, Southampton, across Hampshire or on the Isle of Wight.

However the force has allocated a Public Order Commander to oversee any issues in Hampshire and Isle of Wight and arranged for local police to be visible at vaccine centres over the coming days.

This comes as police confirm that several groups organising this activity nationally are advocating aggravated tactics, confrontations, threatening staff, criminal damage, threats to “common law arrest” vaccination centre staff and police officers. There have also been attempts to report “criminal” offence complaints to police relating to the vaccination programme.

Hampshire Constabulary continues to work closely with vaccination programme colleagues and partners. **The force is encouraging people working at vaccine sites to call police the moment any anti-vax protesters turn up and not wait for disorder.** Anyone who notices any suspicious activity at all is asked to notify the police immediately.

All calls to police should articulate the nature of threats made to staff of arrest, intimidation, or aggression. All protest activity should also be escalated via usual operational reporting channels.

Infection prevention control guidance to remain in primary care settings



Following the Government announcement that from next Thursday (27 January) face coverings will no longer be mandatory in public places, NHS England and Improvement want to remind primary care colleagues that the [UK Health Security Agency's infection prevention control \(IPC\) guidance](#) remains in place for all staff and patients.

This includes in GP practices, dental practices, optometrists and pharmacies to ensure that everyone is protected. Please continue to encourage patients to wear a face covering to keep staff and other patients safe.

Resources supporting IPC guidance, including social media assets and posters to use at entrances to notify visitors that they need to wear a face covering, [are available to download from the Campaign Resource Centre](#).

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.gportal@nhs.net

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