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Joined Up Care
Derbyshire

Stakeholder Bulletin

28 May 2020

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19): Derby and Derbyshire stakeholder bulletin #9



Dear partners

This is the ninth edition of our regular briefings to keep you updated on the NHS response to Coronavirus (COVID -19) in Derby and Derbyshire.

There have been a number of significant national announcements since last week's bulletin relating to the test and trace programme, the antibody testing programme, the reopening of schools and non-essential businesses and the authorisation of an antiviral drug for selective NHS patients to support the treatment of coronavirus. We provide more detail on all of these in the national updates section below.

Today marks the launch of the test and trace programme in England, following the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care's announcement at the Downing Street briefing yesterday. We provide more information on what the test and trace programme is in the national updates section below and details of what this means for you in the 'update for Derby and Derbyshire' section.

Antibody testing is also being rolled out this week in a phased approach with NHS staff and social care staff taking priority. This type of testing is designed to help us understand the prevalence and the spread of the disease and it's important to note that a positive test does not guarantee protective immunity, nor that someone cannot be re-infected.

In the last few bulletins we have highlighted the importance of people accessing help if they have serious conditions or concerns. For more information about the work the NHS in Derbyshire is doing to ensure

that essential services are safe and available to you when you need them and for information about the range of wellbeing and other support that is available to you please [click here](#). I have also recorded [this short video](#) to highlight the importance of seeking help and advice.

As part of our restoration and recovery plans, engagement and experience leads from across the health and care system met last week to work out the best way to understand the impacts of the pandemic on the population. We'll be looking to do a generic pulse check of population health and wellbeing that can be repeated over time and understand the specific impact of service removal or access changes. There have been positive changes in patient behaviour during this pandemic – such as fewer inappropriate A&E attendances and calls for ambulances – which we are keen to build on.

As always, if you would like to show your appreciation for all those who are out there making an unbelievable difference to our lives in these challenging times, please feel free to join me at 8pm to [#clapforourcarers](#) along with millions of others in what has become a very special weekly ritual. If you have any questions following this bulletin or would like to ask about a topic please email us at: ddccg.enquiries@nhs.net

With best wishes and stay safe.

Avi

Dr Avi Bhatia
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National Update

Reopening of schools and non-essential businesses and the launch of 'test and trace'

Speaking at the Downing Street briefing on Sunday, the Prime Minister said that parents and teachers should prepare for the phased reopening of schools in England to start on 1 June as planned. The government is prioritising early years' pupils, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. On June 15, up to a quarter of Year 10 and Year 12 will be allowed "some contact" to help prepare for exams. Reopening is not compulsory so it is best to check the latest position with your school or local authority.

The Prime Minister also confirmed that all non-essential retailers will be able to reopen in England from 15 June, assuming infection rates remain under control. Retailers will have to adhere to new guidelines to protect shoppers and workers. Outdoor markets and car showrooms will be able to reopen from 1 June. Some non-essential businesses, such as hairdressers, nail bars and hotels, will remain closed as the risk

of transmission is deemed to be higher.

At Tuesday's Downing Street briefing, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, spoke about 'local lockdowns' being in place in the future as part of the test and trace system and yesterday he confirmed that the rollout of the test and trace programme in England would begin today (28 May). Mr Hancock said that the test and trace programme would allow the government to replace a national lockdown with "local action" - instead of locking many people down, isolating a few.

Contact tracing is a system used to slow the spread of infectious diseases like coronavirus. It has already been used in other countries as part of their response to the pandemic. The ambition is to have 25,000 contact tracers, able to track 10,000 new cases a day. Eventually the government hopes a free NHS smartphone app will work in tandem with manual tracing. The app is currently being piloted on the Isle of Wight and the government hopes it will be ready to roll out nationally "in the coming weeks". The Scottish test and trace scheme also begins today. [Here](#) the BBC explains how the NHS Covid-19 App and contact tracing works.

UK authorises anti-viral drug remdesivir

On Tuesday Matt Hancock announced a new trial for selective NHS patients of an antiviral drug called remdesivir saying that "this is probably the biggest step forward in the treatment of coronavirus" since the crisis began." Remdesivir appears to shorten the recovery time for patients with coronavirus. You can read more about the antiviral drug [here](#).

Antibody testing

Last week the Department of Health and Social Care [published](#) their antibody test programme. The programme is focused on the introduction of voluntary antibody testing which shows whether people have already been infected with COVID-19. As described above, antibody testing is being rolled out this week in a phased approach with NHS staff and social care staff taking priority. The initial number of tests available will be small but this will be increased by the end of June. It's important to note that antibody testing does not mean that people have immunity even if they have a positive result and social distancing rules still need to be observed. NHS staff and primary care staff are advised not to purchase antibody tests online or from shops. There is a description of what the antibody test is and how it differs from other available tests [here](#).

Coronavirus-related deaths

At Tuesday's Downing Street briefing, Matt Hancock, stated that for the first time since 18 March, there had been no coronavirus-related deaths recorded in Northern Ireland. He added that figures released by the Office for National Statistics show the overall number of deaths are the lowest in six weeks.

At the same briefing, Prof John Newton, national co-ordinator of the UK's COVID-19 testing programme, said the number of deaths occurring in hospitals and care homes is declining. He said the trend in deaths in care homes occurred later and was smaller. In total, 28.3% of deaths have occurred in care homes.

National advice – stay alert to stay safe

The national advice continues to be [stay alert, control the virus, save lives](#).

Statistics

As of 9am BST on 27/05/2020, the Department of Health and Social Care confirmed that there have been 3,798,490 tests, of which 248,293 tested positive. 150,903 positive cases were identified as being in England.

Update for Derby and Derbyshire

Local response

The local NHS and its partners continue to respond to the Coronavirus situation through the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) for Derbyshire.

Test and trace programme – what it means for you

From today (28.05.2020) anyone who tests positive for coronavirus will be contacted by NHS Test and

Trace and will need to share information about their recent interactions. This could include household members, people with whom they have been in direct contact, or within two metres for more than 15 minutes.

People identified as having been in close contact with someone who has a positive test must stay at home for 14 days, even if they do not have symptoms, to stop unknowingly spreading the virus.

If those in isolation develop symptoms, they can book a test at nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/ or by calling 119. If they test positive, they must continue to stay at home for seven days or until their symptoms have passed. If they test negative, they must complete the 14-day isolation period.

Members of their household will not have to stay at home unless the person identified becomes symptomatic, at which point they must also self-isolate for 14 days to avoid unknowingly spreading the virus.

Key worker testing

The testing of key workers across the NHS, Public, Social and Emergency Services across Derbyshire continues to be one of our highest priorities and the two staff testing sites at Toyota (Burnaston) and ProAct stadium (Chesterfield) continue to support this process.

Antibody testing

As mentioned in the introduction and national update section, antibody testing is being rolled out this week in a phased approach with NHS staff and social care staff taking priority.

Restoration and recovery

The health and care system in Derbyshire submitted a full outline of our plans to step up non-covid, urgent services to NHS England and NHS Improvement on Thursday 14 May and you can read a summary of the submission [here](#).

Following the submission we have been doing further work to understand the priorities for our work through the recovery. There are five headline themes that are emerging:

1. Identifying and understanding the interdependencies between health and care and other areas of recovery work.
2. Ensuring we understand the views of our patients and the public (this links with the work of engagement and experience leads described in the introduction).
3. The importance of harnessing available technology.
4. How best to revisit the financial efficiency agenda and understanding how that underpins transformation.
5. The importance of governance and how we resource all of this work in the future.

Care homes

Our care homes cell (the group dedicated to this area of work) continues to work to ensure that care homes are receiving the required level of support to manage through the pandemic. More detailed information on what is happening to support care homes is available in previous editions of this bulletin which are available to download [here](#).

PPE

Our local providers are reporting that they have sufficient PPE. Our PPE cell (the group dedicated to this area of work) continues to work with partners to spot and sort any issues with PPE and there is a mutual aid process in operation across the system.

Statistics

As at 2pm on 27/05/2020 there were 581 confirmed cases in Derby and 1,677 confirmed cases in Derbyshire. A total of 604 deaths of Derby and Derbyshire patients have sadly been confirmed via the daily national announcements.

Breakdown of 1,677 Derbyshire confirmed cases: South Derbyshire: 235; NE Derbyshire: 318; High Peak: 208; Erewash: 188; Derbyshire Dales: 154; Chesterfield: 226; Bolsover: 152; Amber Valley: 196

Figures for 22-26 May are subject to change.

Local Services Updates

Many of our local services have changed to enable us to respond to the pressures and challenges created by the coronavirus pandemic. To help you keep up-to-date with any changes, Joined Up Care Derbyshire now has an area of their [website](#) dedicated to bringing you all the latest health service information. The website is updated daily to provide information as quickly as possible.

If you would like to access the individual websites of our hospital and community NHS partners, these are listed below:

[University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Derbyshire Community Health Services NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[Derbyshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust](#)

[East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust](#)

[DHU Health Care](#) (provider of the NHS 111 telephone helpline for the East Midlands as well as the out of hours GP services in Derbyshire and Leicestershire)

NHS Volunteer Responder referrals

NHS healthcare professionals and social care staff can now refer people for help from NHS Volunteer Responders through an [easy-to-use weblink](#).

Health Services

Our hospitals

Non-emergency, planned 'elective' surgeries at hospitals have been postponed and, to protect staff, patients and visitors strict visiting restrictions have been put in place. Specific visiting information is available on the hospital's websites.

General practice

If anyone needs to get in touch with their local GP practice, they are advised to visit their practice website in the first instance to understand how best to contact them and how they are operating at this time. If that is not possible, then calling the practice is the next best option.

Pharmacy

Below is a reminder of options for patients to access and order their repeat prescriptions across Derbyshire:

- Online from GP Practices – patients can check out their practice's website for details of how to register. [How to order repeat prescriptions online](#)
- Using the free NHS App on a smartphone. Download the app [here](#).
- Via the Medicines Order Line (if your practice is aligned with the order line). More information is available [here](#).

Urgent Dental Care Services for the East Midlands

People in need of the most urgent dental care can now access one of the 30 new urgent dental centres which are open in the East Midlands. More information is available [here](#).

NHS 111 service

Patients who are concerned that they may have coronavirus or may have come into contact with someone who has should utilise the [NHS 111 online service](#) in the first instance as this helps to manage the unprecedented call volumes the NHS 111 service is currently experiencing.

Find your nearest NHS service

If you want to find your GP practice, or nearest NHS Service, use [this search facility](#).

Partner Information

Derbyshire Spirit

[Derbyshire Spirit](#) shares good news, signposts people to help, advice and support and shines a light on how everyone is working together to look after our people and our place in these challenging times.

Support, guidance, advice and wellbeing

Support for people with diabetes

An NHS study released on Wednesday 20 May revealed that people living with diabetes face a significantly higher risk of dying with COVID-19. Following the study people with diabetes are being urged by health leaders to access the support available to them. A new diabetes advice helpline has been launched to support people living with insulin-treated diabetes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The helpline offers clinical advice for people who cannot access their usual care teams due to local service disruption. Find out more [here](#).

Help Us to Help You - useful information about pregnancy and coronavirus

As the NHS continues to restore key services, pregnant women are being encouraged to attend their antenatal appointments and continue to seek advice from their midwife or maternity team. Click here for useful information about [pregnancy and coronavirus](#).

Support for those experiencing domestic abuse

Refuge, the charity that runs the national domestic abuse helpline is reporting a 10-fold increase in visits to its website in the past two weeks. If you or anyone you know is experiencing domestic abuse then it is important to remember that you are not alone. [Refuge](#) and a number of other organisations are available to offer support.

Advice for parents during coronavirus

Whilst coronavirus is infectious to children it is rarely serious. If your child is unwell it is likely to be a non-coronavirus illness, rather than coronavirus itself.

Whilst it is extremely important to follow Government advice to stay at home during this period, it can be confusing to know what to do when your child is unwell or injured. Remember that NHS 111, GPs and hospitals are still providing the same safe care that they have always done. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have produced a [one page poster](#) with advice for parents during coronavirus.

COVID-19 patient information for vulnerable groups

Health Education England's national NHS Library and Knowledge Services team has collated trusted, accessible online patient information resources about COVID-19. You can see these [here](#).

Ready to quit for good? | Free 12 week stop smoking service

The Chief Medical Officer and Health Secretary have both highlighted that smokers are at increased risk from COVID-19. Smoking harms the immune system and reduces the body's natural protection against infections, like coronavirus. Smokers are therefore at greater risk of:

- getting acute respiratory infections

- the infection lasting longer
- the infection being more serious than it would be for someone who does not smoke

Live Life Better Derbyshire offers a free 12 week stop smoking service and you can find more information [here](#).

Wellbeing, health advice and support for health, social care and community staff

Support in relation to the COVID-19 virus is available on the Joined Up Care Derbyshire website [here](#).

We salute you

JK Rowling publishes new book on website for free for children in lockdown

On Tuesday, JK Rowling surprised fans with the announcement of a brand new children's book, which she is publishing in daily instalments on her website for free for children in lockdown. The Ickabog will be published in instalments every weekday between 26th May and 10th July on [The Ickabog](#) website. If that wasn't exciting enough, readers will also have the chance to have their artwork included in the printed version of the book due out later this year by entering the official illustration competition being run by her publishers. More information about the origins of The Ickabog is available [here](#).

What you can do to help

Help us to save lives by reinforcing key messages in this bulletin with your key contacts. This should include the updated Government message to stay alert to stay safe. Please use your social media accounts to share only official messages from Government and NHS websites and accounts as there is a lot of misinformation about coronavirus being shared online.

Download previous editions of this bulletin

You can download previous editions of this bulletin [here](#).

Contact

If you have any feedback, or questions, please email us at: ddccg.enquiries@nhs.uk. We are sure you will understand that we are very busy, but we will endeavour to respond to all queries within 72 hours.

Disclaimer:

While every effort has been made to ensure the contents of this bulletin are accurate and up-to-date you will appreciate that the situation relating to the coronavirus pandemic can change rapidly and so NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG do not accept any responsibility of any omission as it is not deliberate. Nevertheless, we will appreciate provision of accurate information to improve our work. Where links are provided to external content, NHS Derby and Derbyshire CCG holds no responsibility for such content or accuracy.

