****

**COVID-19 update**

**29 March 2020**

**In this edition**

Covid-19 discharge guidance \*\*\*summary information provided below\*\*\*

Remote total triage information

Speciality guide Palliative care and coronavirus

Personal protection equipment letter

Final guidance on the safe switching of warfarin to DOAC

Useful information

**Attachments**

* Remote total triage blueprint
* Speciality guide Palliative care and coronavirus
* COVID-19 discharge guidance
* Personal protection equipment letter 28 March 2020
* Final guidance on the safe switching of warfarin to DOAC COVID-19 19 Mar 2020

**Covid-19 discharge guidance**

Please find attached a letter from NHS England and NHS Improvement detailing the topics below. \*\*\*Please note the highlighted sections on pages 4,5,6 and 7.\*\*\*

**Key summary of the information:**

1. Note new Primary Care Operating Model involving National Covid-19 Response Service.

* NHS111 online as the first port of call for people feeling unwell with possible COVID-19 symptoms, rather than approaching their GP practice
* Establishment of a COVID Clinical Assessment Service (CCAS) to further assess and triage patients, who will refer appropriate patients to GPs for further management.
* Practices must:
  + Enable GP Connect for both appointment booking and record access
  + Ensure nominal appointment slots are always available into which the National COVID-19 Response Service can ‘book’ patients into a work list
* Swift changes to regulations are expected to give statutory force to this position

1. Patients identified most at high risk

* The action required by GPs includes:
  + Reviewing their care plans, including undertaking any essential follow-up
  + Helping patients receive their medicine by helping them to arrange electronic repeat dispensing and enlisting support of local resource/voluntary sector to collect and deliver.
  + Complete review of (i) which patients are at most risk, and (ii) their care plans, by the end of March.

1. GP practices should adopt a full triage-first model. All practices to have a video consultation system to support remote management of patients

1. Manage essential face-to-face services (including home visits) through designating facilities/premises and teams to minimise the spread of infection to those who are suspected non-COVID, particularly those most at risk. (i.e. Hot sites/clinics/zones).

* Each local area will need to consider and agree with their CCG, the model that best suits their local context and arrangements.
* If additional estate capacity required, liaise with CCG commissioners who can enter into the agreements either through a tenancy at will or a license for occupation.

1. Hospital discharge: Community health services will take overall responsibility for ensuring the effective delivery of the discharge service working with other delivery partners including GPs.

1. Other points:

* Items such as PPE and IT equipment will be provided free of cost.
* Hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine should be used only as part of a clinical trial for the treatment of COVID-19
* Essential that GPs do not issue prescriptions for a longer duration, to avoid disruption to supply.
* Bank Holidays (e.g. Easter): treating these as ordinary working days and cancelling staff annual leave to ensure services are able to be maintained.

**Remote total triage**

Attached is advice on how to establish a remote ‘total triage’ model in general practice using online consultations

**Speciality guide Palliative care and coronavirus**

Attached is a clinical guide for the management of palliative care in hospital during the coronavirus pandemic. Whilst this is a document primarily aimed at secondary care, it also includes useful information for primary care.

**Final guidance on the safe switching of warfarin to DOAC**

Attached is guidance for the safe switching of warfarin to direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) for patients with non-valvular AF and venous thromboembolism (DVT / PE) during the coronavirus pandemic.

**Useful resources**

* Healthwatch is building up a lengthy list of links to information about coronavirus, and its effects on different health conditions and on a variety of other topics, plus updates regarding organisations in North Yorkshire. <https://healthwatchnorthyorkshire.co.uk/coronavirus-links/>
* The CCG publishes public facing information on its website and social media channels.  The web link is <https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-information/>
* The link to the CCG’s clinical updates is available on RSS at <https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/rss/home/infections-and-microbiology/covid-19/>
* NHS England’s latest bulletin summarises many national resources. Go to <https://www.england.nhs.uk/email-bulletins/general-practice-bulletin/>
* The dedicated NHS England and NHS Improvement COVID-19 web page is <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/primary-care>.
* The RCGP website has links to useful resources: <https://www.rcgp.org.uk/policy/rcgp-policy-areas/covid-19-coronavirus.aspx>
* GP Rammya Mathew in Islington shares a suite of resources at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19nzcxWxCXD2DBFVsG3JiwJHskP1oLRWa> Thank you Dr Paula Evans!
* National Autistic Society – guidance and helpline for parents’, young people and staff: [https://www.autism.org.uk/services/nas-schools/vanguard/news/2020/march/coronavirus-(covid-19)-advice.aspx](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.autism.org.uk%2Fservices%2Fnas-schools%2Fvanguard%2Fnews%2F2020%2Fmarch%2Fcoronavirus-(covid-19)-advice.aspx&data=02%7C01%7CAAllard%40ncb.org.uk%7C7d078078e21d4611dba808d7cb45bcbd%7Cadc87355e29c4519954f95e35c776178%7C0%7C0%7C637201372684920098&sdata=X0p0IpfwmQXowcaQVRflamskU%2FNmdKpAYqUIn6RYxjI%3D&reserved=0)
* Mencap - Easy Read guide to Coronavirus: [https://www.mencap.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-03/Information%20about%20Coronavirus%20ER%20SS2.pdf](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mencap.org.uk%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2020-03%2FInformation%2520about%2520Coronavirus%2520ER%2520SS2.pdf&data=02%7C01%7CAAllard%40ncb.org.uk%7C7d078078e21d4611dba808d7cb45bcbd%7Cadc87355e29c4519954f95e35c776178%7C0%7C0%7C637201372684920098&sdata=S5Q3Tzb8p6P6AOsa%2BeDPP8PQceazwG2xEK6T65DQ%2Fng%3D&reserved=0)
* Young Minds - Talking to your child about Coronavirus and 10 tips from their Parents Helpline to support family wellbeing: [https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/talking-to-your-child-about-coronavirus/](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoungminds.org.uk%2Fblog%2Ftalking-to-your-child-about-coronavirus%2F&data=02%7C01%7CAAllard%40ncb.org.uk%7C7d078078e21d4611dba808d7cb45bcbd%7Cadc87355e29c4519954f95e35c776178%7C0%7C0%7C637201372684930090&sdata=hCT6wVcFSacio7qNOvk6eX8YRRm0uKSOa4QvPTitEMg%3D&reserved=0)
* Carers UK - Guidance for carers: [https://www.carersuk.org/help-and-advice/health/looking-after-your-health/coronavirus-covid-19](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.carersuk.org%2Fhelp-and-advice%2Fhealth%2Flooking-after-your-health%2Fcoronavirus-covid-19&data=02%7C01%7CAAllard%40ncb.org.uk%7C7d078078e21d4611dba808d7cb45bcbd%7Cadc87355e29c4519954f95e35c776178%7C0%7C0%7C637201372684940084&sdata=RPeTq3k0bpsI1zGIjDqchzAvM%2F7CO2FZ16o%2BrlK4Kns%3D&reserved=0)
* Covibook – an interactive resource designed to support and reassure children aged 7 and under, designed to help children explain and draw the emotions that they might be experiencing during the pandemic: [https://www.mindheart.co/descargables](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mindheart.co%2Fdescargables&data=02%7C01%7CAAllard%40ncb.org.uk%7C7d078078e21d4611dba808d7cb45bcbd%7Cadc87355e29c4519954f95e35c776178%7C0%7C0%7C637201372684940084&sdata=H2glY%2Bfie1Tk3b6lnXcKEmKtZs%2Bf%2BCSQIydH2LaaCgI%3D&reserved=0)
* Free training GPCPD.com- If you are not currently a GPCPD member, go to[gpcpd.com/login\_register](https://redwhale-gpupdate.cmail20.com/t/d-l-mjidjkl-yhjidluru-y/) and enter the activation code **RWGIFT**. If you are already a GPCPD member, go to [gpcpd.com/my-account](https://redwhale-gpupdate.cmail20.com/t/d-l-mjidjkl-yhjidluru-j/), choose the ‘Manage your membership/subscriptions’ and enter **RWGIFT** into the ‘Top up and upgrade codes’ box. For step-by-step video instructions of how to redeem the code go to [www.gpcpd.com/activate-your-code](https://redwhale-gpupdate.cmail20.com/t/d-l-mjidjkl-yhjidluru-t/).
* Free training Headspace - Three months free access to Headspace is now available for NHS workers. Email [Health@headspace.com](mailto:Health@headspace.com) for registration information.
* Free training COVID-19 e-learning programme-Health Education England e-Learning for Healthcare (HEE e-LfH) has created an [e-learning programme in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) global pandemic](https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/free-open-access-to-covid-19-e-learning-programme-for-entire-uk-health-and-care-workforce/) that is free to access for the UK health and care workforce, including those working in the NHS, the independent sector and social care.  The programme currently includes limited resources, but more content will be added in the coming days and weeks.

Thank you

**Sharron Hegarty**

Head of Communications and Media Relations

Phone 01904 555 919 email [sharron.hegarty@nhs.net](mailto:sharron.hegarty@nhs.net)

NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group, West Offices, Station Rise, York, YO1 6GA

**My emails are written in Arial, point 12 font and in black. Where possible I use plain English. I also work flexibly and send emails out of hours – either early in the morning or late at night. Unless an urgent response is specified please reply at a time that suits you.**

