**\*\*\*\*FOR THE ATTACHMENTS PLEASE E-MAIL** **VOYCCG.COMMUNICATIONS@NHS.NET\*\*\*\***

**This information has been sent to all colleagues in primary care and all CCG staff.**

**COVID-19 update**

**20 March 2020**

**In this edition**

COVID-19 and children \*\*\*further advice\*\*\*

Hotel accommodation for NHS staff

Safeguarding in Primary Care - Covid19

Supporting allied health professionals and allied health professional support workers during the COVID-19 epidemic in the UK

Coronavirus information - accessible formats

Adult Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service in North Yorkshire

The Coronavirus Bill – a summary

Useful resources

**COVID-19 and children \*\*\*further advice\*\*\***

To supplement the information provided in yesterday’s COVID-update please note that:

Triaging staff must be familiar with NICE paediatric sepsis pathways. These are available at <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng51/resources/algorithm-for-managing-suspected-sepsis-in-children-aged-under-5-years-outside-an-acute-hospital-setting-91853485524>

* Infants  < 3 months with a  fever >38 need a full septic screen, IV antibiotics and must be referred to Paediatrics.
* Clinical observations (temperature,  fever and respiratory rate) are a key part of assessing a potentially unwell child

**Hotel accommodation for NHS staff**

New hotel booking guidance for staff working on COVID-19 outbreak is attached.

**Safeguarding in Primary Care - Covid19**

The health and welfare of our most vulnerable children, families and adults continues to be a key priority for us all.  We all recognise that enforced isolation goes along with some particular increased risks in terms of issues such as domestic abuse, caring for children or adults with care and support needs, managing family budgets and meals, and accessing support.

As far as possible, safeguarding business should continue as usual, including making safeguarding referrals/alerts as necessary. However, it is anticipated that response services will come under significant pressure. The Safeguarding Team from North Yorkshire and York CCGs want to further support primary care colleagues in these challenging times and to that end, we are proposing to extend the offer of telephone advice and support.

All safeguarding adult and children team members will be available as usual during working hours. Additionally, the following staff are able to provide extended access to safeguarding advice and support from **8am – 6.30pm Monday to Friday.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Team Member** | **Safeguarding Area** | **Contact number** |
| Janette Griffiths | Primary Care (Adults and Children) | **07909 686821** |
| Karen Hedgley | Safeguarding Children | **07946 337290** |
| Elaine Wyllie | Safeguarding Children | **07917 800793** |
| Christine Pearson | Safeguarding Adults | **07872 694747** |

Further information will be cascaded by the NHS Covid19 Safeguarding Group once it is available.

**Supporting allied health professionals and allied health professional support workers**

Please find attached a letter from the national team (issued on the 19 March 2020) on supporting AHPs and AHP support workers during the COVID-19 epidemic.

**Coronavirus information - accessible formats**

The following accessible formats of advice are attached for you to display in practices and use on social media:

* Posters
* BSL videos
* Audio file  - this could be added to existing voicemail messages.

If you have any problems using these materials please contact the Communications Team at voyccg.communications@nhs.net

**For practices in the North Yorkshire County Council area – North Yorkshire Horizons Adult Drug and Alcohol Recovery Service**

North Yorkshire Horizons **remains open, continues to accept referrals and deliver services** to those requiring support. It is open from 9am to 8pm Monday to Friday via the Single Point of Contact telephone lines: 01723 330 730 for professionals and 08000 141 480 for service users

It is currently contacting all GP surgeries whereby it would ordinarily offer a **Shared Care provision** to discuss individual contingency management plans. We will continue to work with patients accessing this service via telephone appointments. The n**eedle exchange and Naloxone service also continues.**

It has postponed all group activities and group work until further notice. Service users that would ordinarily attend these groups will be offered ongoing support via telephone appointment. For more updates go to <https://www.nyhorizons.org.uk/>

**The Coronavirus Bill – a summary**

Below is a summary of the health-related provisions in the Coronavirus Bill that was passed on the 19 March 2020.

**Emergency registration of health professionals**

On notification from the Secretary of State of an emergency, Registrars of the NMC and HCPC will be able to temporarily register fit, proper and suitably experienced persons with regard to an emergency, as regulated healthcare professionals.

**Temporary registration of social workers**

Introduces emergency registration powers for the Registrar of Social Work England (SWE) and the Registrar of Social Care Wales (SCW). The registrars of SWE and SCW will be able to temporarily register fit, proper and suitably experienced persons with regard to an emergency, as social workers.

**Emergency volunteers**

Bill introduces a new form of unpaid statutory leave, and powers to establish a compensation scheme to compensate for some loss of earnings and expenses incurred by volunteers.

**Mental health and mental capacity**

* amendments allow certain functions relating to the detention and treatment of patients to be satisfied by fewer doctors’ opinions or certifications. Temporary amendments also allow for the extension or removal of certain time limits relating to the detention and transfer of patients.
* reduce the number of doctors’ opinions required and modify time limits for detention and movement between court, prison and hospital. This will enable them to be admitted to hospital for treatment where there might otherwise be delay owing to shortage of qualified staff in a pandemic.

**Health service indemnification**

powers to provide indemnity coverage for clinical negligence of health care workers and others carrying out NHS and Health and Social Care (HSC) activities connected to care, treatment or diagnostic services provided under the arrangements for responding to the covid-19 pandemic.

**NHS and local authority care and support**

* Currently, patients with social care needs go through a number of stages before they are discharged from hospital. For some patients, one of these stages is an NHS Continuing Healthcare (NHS CHC) Assessment a process that can take a number of weeks.  The Bill will allow the procedure for discharge from an acute hospital setting for those with a social care need to be simplified.
* Power for Local Authority, if they have not charged an individual for their care during the covid-19 pandemic, they are able to do so retrospectively after the conclusion of this period subject to financial assessment.

**Registration of deaths and still-births etc.**

* Bill will simplify death certificate process and provide more flexibility in an emergency situation by enabling a doctor who may not have seen the deceased to certify the cause of death without the death being referred to the coroner.
* Bill will allow a family member or person who knew deceased to register without attending the register office and will also extend the list of those people who can give the relevant information to the registrar to register the death to funeral directors.

**Useful resources**

* 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/>
* The RCGP website has links to useful resources: <https://www.rcgp.org.uk/policy/rcgp-policy-areas/covid-19-coronavirus.aspx>
* 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)
* 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)
* BACP guidance around managing anxiety - <https://www.bacp.co.uk/news/news-from-bacp/2020/28-february-coronavirus-anxiety-how-to-cope-if-you-re-feeling-anxious-about-the-outbreak/>

Thank you

**Sharron Hegarty**

Head of Communications and Media Relations

Phone 01904 555 919 email 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.**