**COVID-19 update**

**Information correct as of 5pm 29 April 2020**

**In this edition**

* Updates to the RSS COVID-19 webpage
* The re-use of medicines in a care home or hospice
* Temporary changes to stroke service delivery at Scarborough Hospital – information and briefing note
* Shielded and vulnerable patients

**Attachments**

* None

**Updates to the RSS COVID-19 webpage**

Pharmacy

[Vale of York Pharmacy closures and changes of hours - latest position](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3632&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1)

Stroke services

[Temporary changes to stroke service delivery at Scarborough Hospital - Briefing note April 2020](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3815&inline=1)

Safeguarding

[COVID 19 and Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence and Gender Based Violence - Safety and wellbeing advice for survivors](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3810&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1)

[COVID 19 and Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence and Gender Based Violence - Advice for friends, family, neighbours and community members.](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3811&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1)

Shielding

[Shielded and vulnerable patients - guidance for GPs](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3814&inline=1)

[What is Shielding?](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19)

[What is Social Distancing?](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people/guidance-on-social-distancing-for-everyone-in-the-uk-and-protecting-older-people-and-vulnerable-adults)

Information sent directly to practices and now hosted on the main COVID-19 webpage as a useful / go to resource for practices

[Second phase of NHS response to Covid-19 - For action: Letter from Simon Stevens](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3812&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1&inline=1)

**FAO: Prescribers – the re-use of medicines in a care home or hospice**

New national guidance has been published to enable the re-use of medicines between residents living in the same care home or within the same hospice. This is for use in exceptional circumstances where other medicine supplies are not available in a timely fashion, and where the medicine is no longer needed by the resident it was originally prescribed for.

The guidance which includes the SOP is here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-reuse-of-medicines-in-a-care-home-or-hospice> (please use the link to ensure you have the latest version of the guidance).

Patient consent for the process should in place, wherever possible- see table 3 in the guidance for more information.

The Medicines Management Team can be contacted via email VOYCCG.Rxline@nhs.net for further support.

Prescribers should note that they should satisfy themselves that the medication is fit to use before authorising it to be administered; the SOP outlines what issues to check for. The prescriber should record the consultation with the care home staff (including their name and designation) in the patient’s record.

Information will also be sent to care homes, hospices and other key stakeholders, to alert them to this change of practice.

**Temporary changes to stroke service delivery at Scarborough Hospital**

Member practices are receiving this information as they are important stakeholders and need to be informed of these changes.

From **Monday 4 May 2020** patients who suffer a stroke in the Scarborough and Bridlington area will now receive hyper acute stroke care (typically up to the first 72 hours of care) at York Teaching Hospital, Hull University Teaching Hospital  or James Cook University Hospital, rather than receiving initial assessment and care (scan and thrombolysis where appropriate) at Scarborough Hospital.

The decision about which centre a patient is taken to will be based on travel times, and the Yorkshire Ambulance Service transporting patients to the nearest centre, in terms of travel time.

* Stroke patients who self-present at Scarborough Hospital or have a stroke at the hospital will be transferred to York Hospital.
* Patients will still be discharged home after hyper acute care or transferred back to Scarborough Hospital for further care and rehabilitation (usually within 72 hours).
* TIA and follow up outpatient appointments will continue to be held locally and access to these will not change.
* Patients will continue to access local rehabilitation services.
* There should be no impact on the pathways for the Vale of York patients or on the quality of care they receive, and this will be monitored closely over the initial year.

For more information please see the briefing note that has been added to the RSS COVID-19 webpage. [Temporary changes to stroke service delivery at Scarborough Hospital - Briefing note April 2020](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=3815&inline=1)

**Shielded and vulnerable patients**

In response to requests for further information about shielded and vulnerable patients we have added links (see above) to the RSS COVID-19 page at <https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/rss/home/infections-and-microbiology/covid-19/>