**COVID-19 update**

**Information correct as of 4pm 1 June 2020**

**In this edition**

* Updates to the RSS COVID-19 web page
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**Attachments**

* none

All information provided in the COVID-19 bulletin is hosted online at <https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/rss/home/infections-and-microbiology/covid-19/>

**Updates to the RSS COVID-19 web page**

National and regional updates

[Guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19](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)

[Guidance and standard operating procedures - General practice in the context of coronavirus (COVID-19)](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=4016&inline=1)

[Caring for people at highest clinical risk during Covid-19 - information for clinicians](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=4003&inline=1&inline=1)

[Caring for people at highest clinical risk during Covid-19 - sources of information for people who are shielding](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=4004&inline=1&inline=1)

[Covid-19 parking pass (printable)](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=4013&inline=1)

[Covid-19 parking pass (digital)](https://www.valeofyorkccg.nhs.uk/seecmsfile/?id=4015&inline=1)

**Update on Government advice for persons who are shielding**

The latest guidance has been added to the dedicated COVID-19 web page (links above).  The main messages include:

* People who are shielding remain vulnerable and should continue to take precautions but can now leave their home if they wish, as long as they are able to maintain strict social distancing.
* If you choose to spend time outdoors, this can be with members of your own household.
* If you live alone, you can spend time outdoors with one person from another household. Ideally, this should be the same person each time.
* If you do go out, you should take extra care to minimise contact with others by keeping 2 metres apart.

**Vasectomy services**

Contracted vasectomy services have now resumed, accepting patient referrals, offering confidential consultation, Vasectomy procedures, counselling and post-op testing.

Services are subject to strict Standard Operating Procedures with regards to COVID 19 precautions, including observing social distancing within clinics, keeping patients and staff as safe as possible. The telephone line 0345 300 0212 is open 24/7 and is free to use. Patients can call this line to talk through their options, book treatment or receive specialist clinical advice from the Vasectomy team, nursing team and counsellors. Patients need a referral from their GP to access services. This can be using e-Referral, or direct referral using email or post.

The confidential telephone line – One Call 0345 450 3964 – is fully operational, day or night, 7 days a week.

Patients (and GPs) can call this number to talk through their options, book treatment or receive specialist clinical advice from the nursing team and counsellors.

If you have any questions please email Suzanne.dickinson@mariestopes.org.uk

**Free NHS staff car parking – Local authority car parks**

On 25 March the Local Government Secretary announced that local councils will offer free on-street and off-street car parking in local authority car parks to all NHS staff members, health or social care workers, and NHS Volunteer Responders during the COVID-19 emergency response.

The pass (see links above) can be used as evidence that a motorist is on official duty, giving them access to free council car parking as outlined in the accompanying guidance. Please note, this does not apply to privately owned car parks.

Practices will be responsible for how the pass and guidance are distributed. It is advised that records are kept, if possible, of the Vehicle Registration Numbers (VRNs) of workers using the concession in case of instances of fraud or misuse.

Please encourage all workers to carefully read the accompanying guidance on how and where to park when using the concession at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-health-care-and-volunteer-workers-parking-pass-and-concessions/covid-19-health-care-and-volunteer-workers-parking-pass-and-concessions>

If you have any queries please email england.eprrney@nhs.net