

# Covid-19 Newsletter

Issue. 53

7 July 2020

Welcome to the latest edition of the Covid-19 newsletter. We will be issuing this newsletter to general practice on a regular basis to give you the latest updates and guidance. This is in place of the Weekly Inbox, publication of which has been suspended.

**Previous issues** – with attachments and [other useful links and resources](#) can be found [here](#). Clicking this link will not just give you access to archived newsletters but enable to access all the past resources and separate attachments plus a wealth of other resources that may not be in the newsletters. So please give it a go!

<b>Vitamin D</b>	The <b>National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE)</b> has ruled that there is currently no evidence to support the taking of vitamin D supplements specifically to prevent or treat COVID-19. Details of NICE's rapid evidence summary can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>Medicines supply issues</b>  <b>*Drug shortages</b>	Please follow link below for an update from the <b>Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)</b> regarding medicines supply issues.  Information for drug shortages and supply issues has been updated on the CCG website. Please note this file is commercially sensitive and should not be shared. It will only be available for those with access and you will need to log on to view it. For further information please click <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Immunisations</b>	NHS England and NHS Improvement, together with Public Health England, has published clinical guidance for healthcare professionals on maintaining our NHS immunisation programmes during COVID-19.  <a href="#">Maintaining immunisation programmes during COVID-19</a>
<b>Reinvestment Scheme and PIS payments 19-20</b>	Medicines Management are currently organising letters to be sent out to practices for payments around Quarters 3 and 4 of the Reinvestment Scheme as well as the Prescribing Incentive Scheme. Practices can expect to receive these letters next week.
<b>ESNEFT update</b>	Please see <i>attached</i> information from ESNEFT regarding the 'blue' and 'green' pathways and use of face coverings for parents and carers of children needing to attend the Ipswich and Colchester hospital sites for surgical procedures during the coronavirus pandemic.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Information for children coming into hospital theatres during COVID-19</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Advice for children parents and carers on Wearing surgical face masks and face coverings during your visit to hospital</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Information for parents and carers with a child having a procedure in theatres (Green Pathway)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Information for parents and carers with a child having a procedure in theatres (Blue Pathway)</a></li> </ul>
<b>PCNs – Early Cancer Diagnosis</b>	<b>What you need to know and how to get started.</b> CRUK webinar details <i>attached</i> being hosted by <b>Cancer Research UK</b> facilitators for the <b>Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care System</b> on what you need to know around early diagnosis. The webinar is taking place between 1pm and 2pm on Tuesday 21 July. Click on the link contained in the attachment to declare your interest.  <a href="#">PCN DES Webinar Flyer – SNEE</a>  Also <i>attached</i> is the timetable for forthcoming SNEE cancer education events. Please note the first session on the timetable is the PCN DES webinar, which the flier relates to, will be facilitated by CRUK and requires pre-registration, while the remaining sessions will be MS Teams meetings for immediate access and run by the CCG.  <a href="#">Cancer Education Timetable for Primary Care</a>
<b>Teledermatology</b>	The Ipswich and East Suffolk Teledermatology Service went live on 22 June. The purpose of this service is to provide consultant advice and guidance for suspicious skin lesions to optimise remote access to care and to reduce unnecessary referrals to secondary care, particularly during the Covid-19 period. Please note that rashes are not currently included however if successful, the service may be expanded to include other types of referral.  An additional MS Teams Support Session has been arranged on Tuesday 14 July, 1pm – 1.30pm. If you would like to join this session or have any queries regarding Teledermatology, please email <a href="mailto:caroline.wells@suffolk.nhs.uk">caroline.wells@suffolk.nhs.uk</a> .

<b>Safeguarding</b>	<p>Please see <i>attached</i> supporting information for health professionals regarding the new ‘<i>See Hear Respond</i>’ service launched by <b>Barnardo’s</b> for children, young people, parents and carers experiencing crisis as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.</p> <p><a href="#">See, Hear, Respond</a></p>
<b>Training &amp; Education Afternoon</b>	<p>We are pleased that all practices are joining us to take part in the virtual education afternoon on Thursday 9 July.</p> <p>The Programme/Agenda for the afternoon can be found <a href="#">HERE</a> and includes links to all the main events. If you are joining a closed meeting, you should have received the invitation directly.</p> <p><a href="#">AGENDA Flyer 9 July</a></p>
<b>Nursing associates</b>	<p>A virtual meeting to showcase routes into nursing and other professions within primary care, namely the roles of nursing associates and assistant practitioners is being held this Friday, 10 July, at 12noon. <b>Mandi Syrett, Deputy Course Lead for Nursing Associates and Lecturer in Health Apprenticeships at the University of Suffolk</b>, will give an overview of the current training pathway at the university, the requirements of students, expectations of the practice, and information regarding funding/levy. The Microsoft Teams meeting can be accessed <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>A second virtual meeting is planned for Monday, 13 July, at 1.30pm. A separate link to that meeting will be circulated nearer the time.</p>
<b>Test and Trace</b>	<p>Please click <a href="#">here</a> to view a video in which <b>Stuart Keeble, Director Of Public Health for Suffolk County Council</b>, sets out the broad principles of the ‘test and trace’ initiative and how it works. An updated video will be filmed shortly, so please feel free to suggest any issues that you feel need to be included in the next one - for example, you may find it helpful to know more about the Local Outbreak Plan? Please email any suggestions to <a href="mailto:clair.harvey@suffolk.gov.uk">clair.harvey@suffolk.gov.uk</a>. As with the current video any new iterations will also include translated subtitles.</p>
<b>Post-COVID innovation</b>	<p>NHSE/I is seeking your opinion and ideas around the support required for the adoption of post-COVID innovation. We would be very grateful if you could ask as many of your colleagues in general practice as possible to complete <a href="#">short survey</a>. The responses will be analysed by RAND and will be shared anonymously with you via appropriate forums. There is also a <a href="#">short survey</a> for patient groups and members of the public. Please see <i>attached</i> letters from the <b>Eastern Academic Health Science Network (EAHSN)</b> that provide context and reasons for the survey.</p> <p><a href="#">Citizen letter</a></p> <p><a href="#">System letter</a></p>
<b>COVID-19 studies</b>	<p>Please find attached an update on the Department for Health and Social Care’s priority COVID-19 studies currently taking place in Suffolk and north east Essex.</p> <p><a href="#">Update on Covid-19 research in Suffolk</a></p>
<b>GP heroes</b>	<p><b>Pulse</b> wants to hear from GPs and their patients about GPs who should be recognised for their hard work during the pandemic and the past year. Nominations close today (Tues 7 Jul), but it doesn’t take long to submit one, and you can do so <a href="#">here</a></p>
<b>CCG stakeholder update</b>	<p>Please <a href="#">click here</a> to view the latest stakeholders video update from Dr Ed Garratt, Chief Executive of the NHS Ipswich &amp; East Suffolk, NHS West Suffolk and NHS North East Essex CCGs and Executive Lead for the Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care System.</p> <p><a href="#">Ed Garratt Update 3 July</a></p>

If have any questions or important information to share in the next edition, please contact [Caroline Procter](#).

Issued by NHS Ipswich and East Suffolk Clinical Commissioning Group  
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Visit the [CCG Covid-19 webpage](#) where you can find many [other useful links and resources](#)