**NHS NETWORKS weekly news stories:**
11:22am, 22 May 2020
[Taking control of stress – building your resilience](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/taking-control-of-stress-2013-building-your-resilience)
Most of us will suffer work-related stress, especially at the current time – and the problem is most acute for public sector staff, particularly those in the NHS.

11:21am, 22 May 2020
[Contraceptive services during Covid-19 pandemic](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/contraceptive-services-during-covid-19-pandemic)
Some women are not accessing the contraception they need during Covid-19, GP practices are reminded that contraceptive services included in GP contract essential services should continue.

11:19am, 22 May 2020
[Wellbeing and accessing support - a ‘where to start guide’ for pharmacy staff](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/wellbeing-and-accessing-support-a-2018where-to-start-guide2019-for-pharmacy-staff)
The NHS Specialist Pharmacy Service with London NW University Healthcare NHS Trust have developed "wellbeing and accessing support during the COVID-19 pandemic - a ‘where to start guide’ for pharmacy staff".

11:17am, 22 May 2020
[Antibody tests to health and social care staff and patients in England](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/antibody-tests-to-health-and-social-care-staff-and-patients-in-england)
Antibody tests will be available to NHS and care staff, eligible patients and care residents in England to see if they have had coronavirus as part of a new national antibody testing programme announced by Health and Social Care Secretary Matt Hancock.

11:16am, 22 May 2020
[Digital transformation in the NHS](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/digital-transformation-in-the-nhs)
This report describes the current state of digital services in the NHS and examines the readiness of the NHS to deliver digital transformation.

11:15am, 22 May 2020
[Covid-19 and the nation’s mental health](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/covid-19-and-the-nation2019s-mental-health)
According to this report, the global Covid-19 pandemic is likely to increase the number of people in Britain experiencing a mental health problem in the next two years.

12:30pm, 21 May 2020
[PCN deadlines approaching – actions needed](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/pcn-deadlines-approaching-2013-actions-needed)
Following on from the publication of the Network DES for 2020/2021, the first of several key dates is fast approaching. By 31 May all existing PCNs must have informed their commissioner of any proposed changes to their PCN (eg the nominated payee, membership, network area or clinical director) or, importantly have confirmed that there will be no changes.

12:28pm, 21 May 2020
[What’s love got to do with leadership?](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/what2019s-love-got-to-do-with-leadership)
As humanity adapts to the post Covid-19 world, is it time to reflect on the balance of fear based as opposed to love based leadership approaches in the NHS? The NHS workforce are human and a big part of our humanity is the need to connect, trust, communicate and feel part of something we believe in.

12:27pm, 21 May 2020
[New professional guidance to support general practice nurses in the Covid-19 pandemic](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/new-professional-guidance-to-support-general-practice-nurses-in-the-covid-19-pandemic)
The Queen’s Nursing Institute has published a new document, 'Minimum Bridging Competencies for General Practice Nurses Transitioning to Community Nursing'.

12:26pm, 21 May 2020
[Domestic abuse during COVID-19](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/domestic-abuse-during-covid-19)
Director of Health and Justice, Armed Forces and Sexual Assault Referral Centres, Kate Davies, and National Head of Safeguarding, Kenny Gibson, have co-written a letter to remind NHS staff of their responsibility to identify, safeguard and care for individuals who they think may be victims and survivors of domestic and/or sexual abuse.

12:24pm, 21 May 2020
[Home Office extends bereavement scheme](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/home-office-extends-bereavement-scheme)
The bereavement scheme has been extended to the families and dependants of NHS support staff and social care workers who die as a result of contracting coronavirus (COVID-19).

12:23pm, 21 May 2020
[COVID-19: guidance on infection control precautions](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/covid-19-guidance-on-infection-control-precautions)
This guidance provides advice on appropriate infection prevention and control (IPC) precautions for patients recovering or recovered from COVID-19 and remaining in hospital, or being discharged to their own home or residential care.

10:12am, 20 May 2020
[Help for people with diabetes during coronavirus outbreak](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/help-for-people-with-diabetes-during-coronavirus-outbreak)
People living with diabetes face a significantly higher risk of dying with COVID-19 with a third of deaths in England associated with the condition, according to new NHS research.

10:05am, 20 May 2020
[New operational model to help pharmacy and medicines teams implement care home guidance](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/new-operational-model-to-help-pharmacy-and-medicines-teams-implement-care-home-guidance)
A new operational model to help pharmacy and medicines teams implement the NHS England and NHS Improvement guidance ‘Primary Care and Community Health Support for Care Homes’ is now available.

10:02am, 20 May 2020
[Guidance for commissioners and providers of services for people who use drugs or alcohol](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/guidance-for-commissioners-and-providers-of-services-for-people-who-use-drugs-or-alcohol)
COVID-19 guidance for commissioners and service providers for those dependent on drugs or alcohol has been published.

09:59am, 20 May 2020
[Health and Wellbeing Support](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/health-and-wellbeing-support)
During #MentalHealthAwarenessWeek, NHS staff are being encouraged to access the mental health and wellbeing support offers available to them with a new campaign called ‘This is for You’.

09:58am, 20 May 2020
[Sharing insight, asking questions, encouraging collaboration: CQC publishes first insight document on COVID-19 pressures](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/sharing-insight-asking-questions-encouraging-collaboration-cqc-publishes-first-insight-document-on-covid-19-pressures)
The Care Quality Commission has published the first of what will be a regular series of insight documents intended to highlight COVID-19 related pressures on the sectors that CQC regulates.

09:54am, 20 May 2020
[GP data to support coronavirus response](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/gp-data-to-support-coronavirus-response)
NHS Digital is supporting GPs by putting in place a central service to collect and disseminate data from General Practice to support vital planning and research, as part of the coronavirus response.

10:50am, 19 May 2020
[Everyone with symptoms now eligible for tests](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/everyone-with-symptoms-now-eligible-for-tests)
The government has announced that anyone in the UK with symptoms of coronavirus is now eligible to book a test, ahead of the rollout of the test and trace service.

10:49am, 19 May 2020
[NICE publishes rapid COVID-19 guidelines on chronic kidney disease and interstitial lung disease](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/nice-publishes-rapid-covid-19-guidelines-on-chronic-kidney-disease-and-interstitial-lung-disease)
NICE has published two new rapid COVID-19 guidelines.

10:42am, 19 May 2020
[Coronavirus (COVID-19): support for care homes](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-care-homes)
The government has announced a new care homes support package backed by a £600 million adult social care infection control fund.

10:40am, 19 May 2020
[Operating framework for urgent and planned services within hospitals](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/operating-framework-for-urgent-and-planned-services-within-hospitals)
NHS England has published an operating framework for urgent and planned services within hospitals.

10:38am, 19 May 2020
[PCN DES deadline approaches](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/pcn-des-deadline-approaches)
The network contract direct enhanced service (DES) underpins the role of PCNs in empowering general practice within the wider NHS and improving the range and effectiveness of primary care services.

10:37am, 19 May 2020
[Key worker guidance and family support package](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/key-worker-guidance-and-family-support-package)
Key worker parents and carers may be facing the pressure of having difficult conversations with their children and families on their role as a key worker, and how this may impact on the safety and dynamics of their family.

10:39am, 18 May 2020
[Coronavirus outbreak indemnity](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/coronavirus-outbreak-indemnity)
The updated FAQs published by NHS Resolution on the coronavirus outbreak indemnity includes information which is relevant to community pharmacists, including those returning to the profession to help with the response to the coronavirus pandemic.

10:35am, 18 May 2020
[Supporting compassionate visiting arrangements for those receiving care at the end of life](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/supporting-compassionate-visiting-arrangements-for-those-receiving-care-at-the-end-of-life)
Guidance focused on supporting compassionate visiting arrangements for those receiving care at the end of life has been published.

10:32am, 18 May 2020
[Helping NHS staff get the essentials they need](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/helping-nhs-staff-get-the-essentials-they-need)
NHSX have been working with retailers to introduce and scale-up initiatives aimed at health and social care staff so they have access to essential supplies, such as food and medicines.

10:31am, 18 May 2020
[e-RS can now be used for more routine referrals](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/e-rs-can-now-be-used-for-more-routine-referrals)
NHS England and Improvement advised GPs that referrals to secondary care should continue to be made as normal and to use advice and guidance to reduce unnecessary referrals to hospital, where possible.

10:29am, 18 May 2020
[Government begins large scale study of coronavirus immunity](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/government-begins-large-scale-study-of-coronavirus-immunity)
Up to 20,000 people are being asked to take part in a new government-funded study to further track the extent of the coronavirus spread across England, Scotland and Wales.

10:28am, 18 May 2020
[Covid-19: what are the options for the UK?](http://www.networks.nhs.uk/networks/news/covid-19-what-are-the-options-for-the-uk)
This report focuses on the priorities for measures to support a gradual release from social distancing measures through a sustainable public health response to Covid-19.