

## **NHS NETWORKS weekly news stories:**

16:31pm, 3 April 2020

### [Updated guidance on Covid-19 prioritisation within community health services](#)

NHS England has updated guidance to community health services on how to release capacity to support the Covid-19 response.

16:29pm, 3 April 2020

### [£300m package to support community pharmacies during coronavirus outbreak](#)

Community pharmacies are to receive a £300m boost to ensure they can continue to carry out essential services during the coronavirus outbreak.

16:28pm, 3 April 2020

### [Health secretary sets out plan for 100,000 coronavirus tests a day](#)

England will carry out 100,000 tests for coronavirus every day by the end of this month, according to health secretary Matt Hancock.

16:26pm, 3 April 2020

### [New personal protective equipment \(PPE\) guidance for NHS teams](#)

The UK government has published new guidance about personal protective equipment (PPE) for NHS teams who are likely to come into contact with patients with coronavirus.

16:23pm, 3 April 2020

### [Surge in the number of people using NHS tech during coronavirus outbreak](#)

Research this week shows 38% of people have increased their use of NHS technology since the start of the coronavirus outbreak.

10:29am, 2 April 2020

### ['It took a crisis to give us the kind of networks we wanted'](#)

Dr Mike Smith, partner at the Maltings Surgery in St Albans reflects on the strange new world of general practice, how GPs have rediscovered a sense of shared purpose and how the Covid-19 crisis has changed the way general practice works faster than a policy initiative ever could.

10:28am, 2 April 2020

[NHS England Covid-19 primary care bulletin](#)

NHS England and NHS Improvement publish a regular Covid-19 bulletin for primary care contractors.

10:13am, 2 April 2020

[Coronavirus Act - excess death provisions](#)

NHS England and NHS Improvement have published information and guidance for medical practitioners regarding the excess death provisions of the Coronavirus Act.

10:05am, 2 April 2020

[Updates and guidance for optical settings](#)

NHS England and NHS Improvement have published guidance for those working in optical settings.

09:59am, 2 April 2020

[Online and video consultation products now available](#)

NHS Digital has published a list of approved suppliers of online and video consultation products.

09:56am, 2 April 2020

[More Covid-19 guidelines from NICE](#)

NICE has published more "rapid" guidelines, this time covering provision of radiotherapy services and bone marrow transplant during the Covid-19 pandemic.

14:26pm, 1 April 2020

[Network contract DES for 2020/21](#)

Recognising the impact of COVID-19 on practices, and following the letter sent on 19 March setting out changes to the network contract directed enhanced service (DES), NHS England and NHS Improvement has published the network contract DES for 2020/21 alongside a cover note and associated guidance.

12:04pm, 1 April 2020

[Vaccinations and Immunisations directed enhanced service \(DES\) and enhanced service \(ES\) specifications](#)

NHS England has published vaccinations and immunisations directed enhanced service (DES) and enhanced service (ES) specifications for 2020/21.

12:01pm, 1 April 2020

[First new ventilators to roll off production line this weekend as industry answers call to step up manufacturing](#)

The first devices from the Government's ventilator challenge will roll off the production line this weekend, ahead of delivery to the NHS next week.

12:00pm, 1 April 2020

[What works in schools and colleges to increase physical activity](#)

A report that summarises evidence of what works in schools and colleges to promote levels of activity among children and young people.

11:57am, 1 April 2020

[Covid-19: return-to-practice learning plan](#)

This free learning plan covers key recent developments in primary care, for GPs and nurses returning to practice during the coronavirus pandemic.

11:54am, 1 April 2020

[New advice for safe funerals after discussions with faith leaders](#)

Public Health England has published new guidance to ensure funerals are conducted safely, consistent with social distancing principles.

11:53am, 1 April 2020

[Guidance for parents and carers on supporting children and young people's mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus \(Covid-19\) outbreak](#)

This advice is to help adults with caring responsibilities look after the mental health and wellbeing of children or young people, including those with additional needs and disabilities, during the Covid-19 outbreak.

12:02pm, 31 March 2020

[Joint statement on advance care planning](#)

The British Medical Association, Care Provide Alliance, Care Quality Commission and Royal College of General Practitioners have published a joint statement on advance care planning.

11:58am, 31 March 2020

[GP practices helped to identify patients eligible for electronic repeat dispensing](#)

To help support the response to COVID-19, the NHS Business Services Authority (NHS BSA) is introducing a system to automatically identify patients that may be eligible for electronic repeat dispensing (eRD).

11:56am, 31 March 2020

[National bodies urge public to treat high street pharmacy teams with respect](#)

Patients are being asked to treat high street pharmacy staff with respect, as they deliver vital support on the NHS frontline in the face of COVID-19.

11:52am, 31 March 2020

[HEE and QNI community nursing film shortlisted for WHO international film festival](#)

A short film made in partnership by The Queen's Nursing Institute (QNI), Health Education England (HEE) and creative agency Mother London last year has been shortlisted in the Health for All Film Festival by the World Health Organization (WHO).

11:50am, 31 March 2020

[Preparedness, prevention and control of COVID-19 in prisons and other places of detention](#)

This guidance provides useful information to staff and health care providers working in prisons, and to prison authorities.

10:42am, 30 March 2020

[Latest Covid-19 update for general practice from NHS England](#)

NHS England's latest letter to general practice on the Covid-19 situation includes guidance on operational changes, including how to establish a "total triage" system.

10:40am, 30 March 2020

[Text messaging service for people with symptoms of Covid-19](#)

People staying at home suffering with suspected coronavirus symptoms will get regular check-ins from a new NHS messaging service.

10:38am, 30 March 2020

[Specialised services quality dashboards - mental health restrictive practice definitions 2020/21](#)

NHS England has published specialised services quality dashboards to provide assurance on the quality of care by collecting information about outcomes from healthcare providers.

10:36am, 30 March 2020

[Guidance for the public on mental health and wellbeing during the crisis](#)

Public Health England has published a guide for the public on looking after their mental health and wellbeing during the coronavirus outbreak.

10:35am, 30 March 2020

[RCGP Covid-19 resources hub](#)

The Royal College of GPs has put together a webpage of resources to support GPs in understanding and managing the pandemic, with topics ranging from diagnosis to keeping practices safe.

10:33am, 30 March 2020

[Health and care: the first 100 days of the new government](#)

When the new government took power just over 100 days ago, the health and care system was facing significant and persistent issues that they promised to address.

**NHS NETWORKS weekly editor's blog entries:**

23:34pm, 2 April 2020

[Blithering Covid-19 bulletin plays vital role](#)

To fill a gap in the market for timely and relevant Covid-19 information, Martin Plackard, director of global crisis communications at NHS Blithering introduces his latest initiative to reach out to stakeholders during the outbreak.