



Welcome to the Patients Association's Weekly News

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Roadmap out of lockdown



Approaches to relaxing lockdown restrictions have been announced for England and Scotland, with similar details expected soon for Wales and Northern Ireland.

Earlier this week, Rachel Power, our Chief Executive, welcomed, “the Government’s cautious, phased approach to ending lockdown,” in England.

“It is right to make pressure on the NHS a key test: many patients have had their treatment cancelled or postponed while the NHS has been overwhelmed by the winter wave of COVID-19, leading to worry, uncertainty, ongoing pain and discomfort, and in some cases long-term consequences that could have been avoided.

“We know that only lockdown brings infection levels down in an unvaccinated population, and therefore that only lockdown enables the NHS to keep functioning. The roll-out of vaccines will fundamentally change this pattern, and will be a major achievement – we welcome the target set today of offering a vaccine to all adults by the end of July.

“The combination of the roll-out of vaccines and a measured, step-by-step easing of lockdown, gives patients

hope that the worst consequences of COVID-19 can be put firmly in the past, and the mistakes of last year not repeated.”

Currently the existing lockdown rules remain in force, and substantial changes will only begin in March. Our website has links to the full guidance in your area.

[Check the rules](#)

COVID-19 experience survey



Although the COVID-19 pandemic is entering a more hopeful phase, with case numbers falling and vaccinations being rolled out, we still want to hear about your experiences. This includes both recent events and anything you want to share about what’s happened over the last year.

Our survey is still live, and we will use what you tell us to follow up our Pandemic Patient Experience report of last year. Whether you responded previously and would like to update us on how you have found things since then, or if you would be telling us about your COVID experience for the first time, please click through and take the survey.

[Take the survey](#)

Delivering patient-centred care: a perioperative care green paper



Perioperative care is a patient centred care pathway that follows the patient from initial investigation, right through their treatment options and contacts with nurses and clinicians, to full recovery. [The Centre for Perioperative Care \(CPOC\)](#) is a multidisciplinary partnership driving to transform surgical care for patients across the UK right from the moment surgery is contemplated.

[Perioperative care can:](#)

- increase how empowered, active and involved people are in their care.
- reduce complications after surgery, meaning that people may feel well sooner and be able to resume their life more quickly and reduce the amount of time that people stay in hospital.
- increase people's satisfaction with their care.

CPOC has launched a nine-month consultation programme aimed at addressing the short-term challenges and long-term opportunities facing the perioperative care agenda with the first ever 'Perioperative Green Paper.' A focus on patient need is crucial to developing a robust and innovative NHS - in other words, [Perioperative Care](#). And this needs to be everybody's responsibility.

CPOC cannot develop this green paper without the involvement, collaboration and help of everyone who wants to see better patient-centred care. If you would like to get involved, [please find out more and contact CPOC today](#).

Opportunity to share your experience with chronic wound care



Do you experience chronic wounds (caused by trauma, diabetes, vascular disease, infection, pressure) and use wound care services? If so, we would like to hear from you. The Patients Association is working with Mölnlycke, a global medical products and solutions company, to better understand patients' experience with wound care and gather insights on why wound care treatment might be delayed (especially during the COVID-19 pandemic). Your feedback will shape information resources to help patients get help at the right time and support self-care.

We are seeking individuals who experience chronic wounds to participate in an online focus group or case study interview. Participants will be reimbursed with an £80 incentive payment. Places are very limited. If you are interested in being considered to participate, please contact Sharrie McIntosh sharrie.mcintosh@patients-association.org.uk.

Two surveys still open - wound care and hospital food



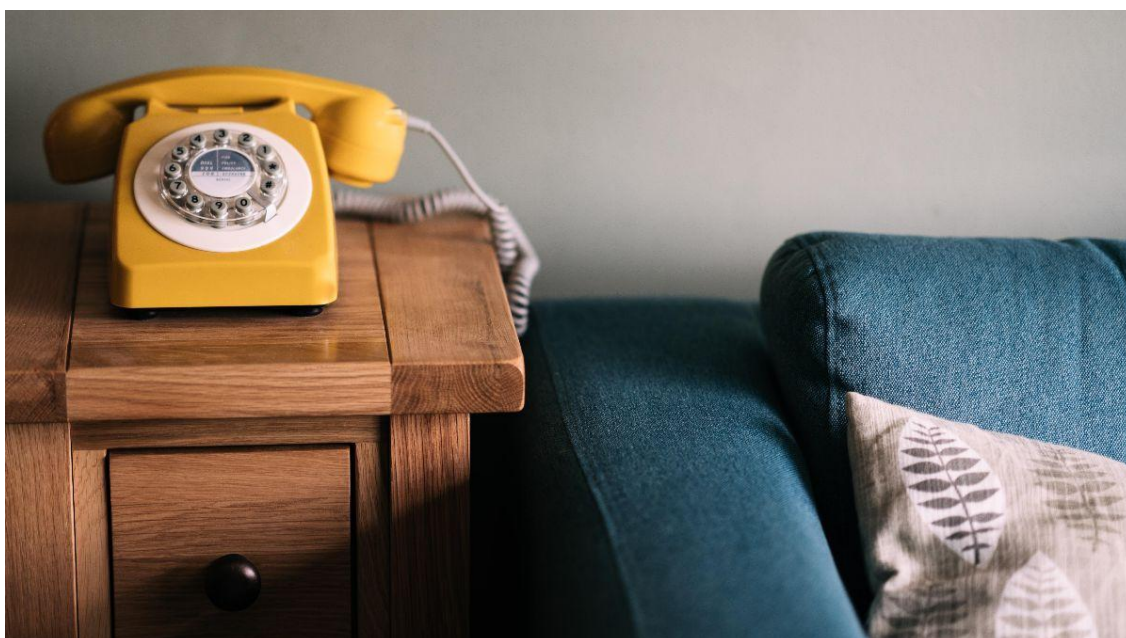
Please spare us 10 to 15 minutes to complete our survey on care chronic wounds. We want to hear from everyone, not just individuals who have chronic wounds..

[Tell us what you think](#)

Also, we'd love to hear from more of you about your views and preferences on hospital food and how this supports your journey to improved health and wellness, if you have spent one or more nights in hospital in the last 12 months.

[Tell us what you think](#)

Our helpline



We have a range of information leaflets [on our website](#) which contain useful information and pointers if you have a quick question about your health and social care. If you can't find the answers you need there, you can always call our helpline on 0800 3457115 between 9.30am and 5pm on weekdays, or email helpline@patients-association.org.uk. See our website for more ways to get in touch.

What our team is reading

[COVID-19 recovery and resilience: what can health and care learn from other disasters?](#)

[The health of people from ethnic minority groups in England](#)

[Not a single case of flu detected by Public Health England this year as COVID restrictions suppress virus](#)

[Patients lose patience](#)

[“Help for my junior doctors isn’t there”](#)

About Us

Our vision is that health and social care will be delivered in a way that meets every person’s health and social care needs.

Our mission is to give effect to the patient voice, to improve patient experience and support people to engage fully in their own care. Find out more about our values on our [website](#).



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