

To keep up to date with the latest reports, guidelines and news, see the Library and Knowledge Service's **Knowledge Pages** at: <http://www.knowledge-nw.nhs.uk/knowledge/Pages/RSSPage.aspx>



The Health Foundation: COVID-19 policy tracker

<https://www.health.org.uk/news-and-comment/charts-and-infographics/covid-19-policy-tracker>

Updated 29 October. A timeline of national policy and health system responses to COVID-19 in England. This updated version of the tracker has details from the 31 December 2019 to 22 October 2020. New versions of the tracker are uploaded fortnightly.



NHS England: Updates and guidance for optical settings

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/updates-and-guidance-for-optical-settings/>

Updated 26th October. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for optical practice in the context of coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to apply and has been updated to reflect the current situation.



RCPCH: National guidance for the management of children with bronchiolitis and lower respiratory tract infections during COVID-19

<https://www.rcpch.ac.uk/resources/national-guidance-management-children-bronchiolitis-during-covid-19>

These recommendations on the management of children with bronchiolitis and lower respiratory tract infections in hospital settings during COVID-19 are for clinicians to support winter planning in partnership with local infection control prevention teams.

While some recommendations describe organisational structures in England, services in the devolved nations are encouraged to adopt them to fit local models.



Academic Health Science Network: Safer care during COVID-19

<http://www.ahsnnetwork.com/patient-safety-COVID19-report>

This report gives examples of how Patient Safety Collaboratives refocused their work 'almost overnight' to respond to the pandemic. It illustrates some of the creative ways Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs) supported their local systems and how this experience will be built into future patient safety programmes.



Healthcare Safety Investigation Branch: COVID-19 transmission in hospitals: management of the risk – a prospective safety investigation

<https://www.hsib.org.uk/news/national-report-charts-challenges-managing-covid-19-transmission-hospitals/>

This report charts a four-month patient safety investigation that was launched following concern that patients were contracting COVID-19 after being admitted to hospital. The report references data presented to SAGE in mid-May that suggested around 20% of patients were reporting symptoms seven days after admission.

The report concludes with short, medium and long-term measures that support both immediate and future responses as the NHS continues to tackle the virus. The measures include eight national safety recommendations, safety observations and a tool that NHS trusts can use straight away to review their approach.



National Voices: What We Need Now: What matters to people for health and care, during COVID-19 and beyond

<https://www.nationalvoices.org.uk/what%20we%20need%20now>

Following the publication of "[What We Know Now](#)" earlier this month, National Voices have published a first-person testimony of the first wave. The report is drawn from National Voices [OurCOVIDVoices](#) platform, which asked people to contribute their personal experiences and stories, and features some co-produced recommendations as to how people would like to be treated, and how they would shape services.



Institute of Economic Affairs: Is There A Doctor In The House? Averting A Post-Pandemic Staffing Crisis In The NHS

<https://iea.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Is-there-a-doctor-in-the-house.pdf>

The UK ranks 27th out of 36 OECD countries for number of physicians, and around 30 per cent of doctors on GP and specialist registers are over 55 years old. The UK relies more heavily on foreign-trained physicians than comparable countries – but within a decade it could become increasingly difficult to meet demand this way. While population growth and ageing have increased demand for doctors, such demographic factors could mean a staffing crisis is on the horizon. This briefing suggests a range of cost-effective solutions to plug doctor shortages once the Covid-19 crisis has passed.

Library & Knowledge Service

St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

Nightingale House, Whiston Hospital

email: library@sthk.nhs.uk tel: 0151 430 1342

website: <http://www.knowledge-nw.nhs.uk/Pages/home.aspx>