For ease of access, please print and leave in staff areas for colleagues.

All Speed Reads are available on intranet in Covid Base or on the external site here

ISSUED: 5 JUNE 2020

Staff Helplines – Updated location

We have a number of helplines and support options available for staff. You can find this information on the NHS Lothian Staff page for COVID-19.

Important Information

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Update

Alpha Solway 3030V – Release of Pandemic Stock - Checking FFP3 Respirators

Staff are reminded that in line with best practice guidance they should carry out a visual quality check all FFP3 respirators before every use.

At any time during use, if a FFP3 respirator is wet, contaminated, or becomes uncomfortable, damaged, or staff are concerned that a secure seal is not being maintained – they should remove the FFP3 soon as it is safe to do so and apply a new respirator.

To make sure that the PPE group can monitor any quality issues and respond quickly to any issues, emerging trends or themes, staff are asked to DATIX any product quality issue or product failure at the time of checking or during use.

If any issues or concerns are raised, products may sometimes be 'quarantined' for a short period of time to allow further investigation. This stock will only be released again for general use once it has been confirmed as safe and appropriate to do so by the appropriate expert advisory bodies.

National Carers Week - Making Caring Visible - 8-14 June

During Carers Week 2020, The Integrated Carers Team within the Edinburgh Health and Social care Partnership is inviting health and care services, schools, employers and businesses across the community to recognise the vital contribution made by unpaid carers in Edinburgh.

The Edinburgh Carer Support Team is available to give information, emotional support and practical advice to carers.
Support will be given at the present time either by telephone or via Near Me appointments and carers can be connected to relevant third sector organisations who can offer a wealth of opportunities to carers. To connect with the service please call 0131-536-3371 or e-mail carer.support@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

Specific information for carers during the COVID-19 pandemic is available here, and a VLOG explaining carer services in Edinburgh are still open can be viewed here.

For Carers in the Lothian’s, Young Carers and Carers from Minority Ethnic Backgrounds, resources are available here.

Public Transport Update

Lothian Buses

Lothian Buses has no plans to make any new adjustments to timetables next week. Further details on their services is available on their website below.

https://www.lothianbuses.com/timetables

First Bus

First Bus no plans to make any new adjustments to timetables next week. However, they will be operating services using more double deck vehicles to meet social distancing requirements and have launched an updated app to provide users with advanced notice of bus capacity. Further details on their services, how they plan to manage demand and social distancing and the ability to feedback directly to the operator are available on both weblinks below.


Scotrail

Scotrail has no plans to make any new adjustments to services in the next week. Further details on their services is available on their website below.

www.scotrail.co.uk

If you have information that you would like to be considered for the Speed Read please send it to lothian.communications@nhs.net by 3.30pm each day. Please ensure that your service is content with information before sending.

Staff Health

Recurring Staff health information - The current Staff Health and Wellbeing information can be found on NHS Lothian website by clicking here: https://staff.nhslothian.scot/COVID-19/Pages/NHS-Lothian-Staff-Wellbeing.aspx
Reducing workplace risk from COVID-19

It is essential that we work together to reduce the COVID risk in our workplaces, as much as we practically can. No area is completely safe from COVID-19 if we don’t observe the rules of hygiene and social distancing.

Colleagues from Occupational Health have produced guidance and advice on reducing the risk from COVID-19 in the workplace (available on the COVID-19 base of the intranet - published under ‘Other Staff Updates’ on 20th May - or click on the following link: Reducing Workplace Risk COVID-19

Also, see the ‘COVID-19 protecting yourself and others’ poster on the intranet, available through this link: protecting yourself and others.

Remobilisation and Ward Reconfiguration

Infection Prevention and Control are receiving a high number of requests to review reconfigurations in services and departments as part of remobilisation plans. The COVID-19 SMG Gold Group has agreed that there needs to be an organisational approach to this, as there are multiple aspects to be considered wider than infection prevention and control. In order to support departments, the Tactical Group chaired by Colin Briggs is coordinating development of guidance for services to support a systematic approach inclusive of all aspects. Infection Prevention and Control continue to prioritise pandemic and outbreak management and with limited resources available, ask departments to consider a hold on requests, until the guidance is available.

Black and Minority Ethnic staff – the impacts of COVID-19

NHS Lothian is acutely aware of the concern felt by members of staff who believe they may be more vulnerable to the ill-effects of the coronavirus than others. We know through the work of our BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) Staff Network that our own BME staff have particular concerns, because of the evidence emerging from England and Wales about the disproportionate risk for some Black and Minority Ethnic people from the effects of the virus.

The BME Staff Network Union representatives, professional bodies, elected members, and other advocates have told us about these concerns, and we take them very seriously. We have a duty of care to all of our employees, and that means that if we know some people are particularly vulnerable to a particular risk, we must make any reasonable adjustments we can. If you want to discuss your own personal circumstances, please contact the Staff Network via Rakiya.Suleiman@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk

Probationary Periods & Redeployment

Based on feedback, both Probationary Periods and Redeployment resumed from 1 June 2020, where the service is in a position to actively manage these processes. Further information can be provided by: hr.enquiries@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk and/or in the case of Redeployment: personnel.redeployment@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk
NMAHP Principles and Framework

Prof Alex McMahon, Executive Nurse Director and Dr Heather Cameron, Director of Allied Health Professionals have set out a high level NMAHP Principles and Framework for nurses, midwives and allied health professionals (NMAHPs). This document sets out the approach and the overarching principles for providing care and treatment across NHS Lothian.

Mental health and COVID-19 – how to support recovery?

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Scotland is hosting an online event on Wednesday 17 June (6.30pm – 7.45pm) with discussions on how health professionals, organisations and service users can work collaboratively to respond to the challenges of the pandemic and the key role mental health nursing plays in providing support for people at all stages of life. The event will be chaired by Theresa Fyffe, RCN Scotland Director, who will be joined by representatives from Mental Health Nursing Forum Scotland, Royal College of Psychiatrists and SeeMe Scotland.

To reserve your place, please register here: https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/events/rcnscotland-public-debate-2020

Emollients and Hand Care

Emollients, e.g. Zerovene, Zerobase, Oilatum were added to stock orders over 3 weeks ago. Managers are reminded they can continue to order these products through their normal pharmacy requisition process for general use by staff in the clinical areas.

Staff are reminded to continue to use emollients after every episode of hand washing and to follow the General Hand Care Advice. The dedicated COVID-19 staff skin clinics continue to run. The clinic can be accessed by completing the proforma and following the referral process.

Full information on Skin Care can be found on the Staff Support section of the Covid-19 Hub PPE Intranet Pages.

NHS Lothian in the news – Emergency Eyecare Treatment Centre

STV News featured a positive piece, reminding the public that we are here for them when they need urgent healthcare advice or treatment. In case you missed it, you can watch the piece on the intranet http://intranet.lothian.scot.nhs.uk/News/LatestNews/Pages/EmergencyEyeCareCentreonSTV.aspx and on the internet - https://news.nhslothian.scot/Pages/20200603_EmergencyEyecareTreatmentCentreonSTV.aspx

National Volunteers Week 1-7 June

The Voluntary Services Team and our own hospital colleagues took the opportunity this week provided by Volunteers’ Week to offer an extra big thank you to the volunteers supporting patients, visitors and staff. Please see photos of our volunteers in action here and read our most recent newsletter here.

Guidance on recording Microsoft Teams meetings

Staff are reminded that the record functionality within Microsoft Teams is an available feature which may be useful in a number of settings. There are however, a few things that you should be aware of to ensure that your recording is secure, but also accessible to the right people. Please see this guide for more information.
BP Fuel Offer Ends 7 June

In earlier editions of the Speed Read, we made you aware of BP offering free fuel to NHS Lothian vehicles allocated an all-star fuel card. BP have notified us that this arrangement will come to an end on Sunday 7 June, where normal pump prices displayed on the forecourt will be charged.

St John’s Movie

St John’s Hospital have created a short movie to express what makes staff feel proud to work at the hospital. Thank you to everyone who contributed and to the Medical Photography team who produced the video. Enjoy! [https://vimeo.com/423675562/41ed3a6d46](https://vimeo.com/423675562/41ed3a6d46).

Validated Statistics as at 1400

A total of 122,762 people in Scotland have been tested through NHS labs to date. Of these:

- 107,180 were confirmed negative
- 15,582 were positive
- 2,409 have sadly died.

Important Reminders

You can now find useful links for the latest guidance and information on the COVID-19 Base on the intranet above the daily Speed Reads.

If you have any communication related questions please email: lothian.communications@nhs.net