



Training Hubs Newsletter

Thursday 16th April 2020

Welcome back to the Wessex Primary Care Training Hub (PCTH) newsletter from the Covid-19 period! We hope that you all greatly enjoyed your bank holiday weekend and managed to have some time to relax. We know that during this time, there is a lot of information to process and come to terms with. Our plan is to keep you informed of resources that can help you to do this.

Update for Apprenticeship Level 2/3

Skills for Health have dedicated a COVID-19 Apprenticeship Updates page full of resources and guidance. At present, any staff that are already on an apprenticeship can continue if able to, during the coronavirus outbreak.

Training providers are being encouraged to provide additional online or telephone support sessions to enable apprentices to complete units.

However, there is also the option that if an apprenticeship cannot continue to work due to pressures of the coronavirus, or individual circumstances, then the apprenticeship can be paused. Please discuss individual situations with the training provider.

For regularly updated information, see link: <https://haso.skillsforhealth.org.uk/covid-19-apprenticeship-updates/>

Infection Control

Employees may well be concerned about the risk of infection. NHS Employers have created clear, simple communications that reinforce the key steps everyone should be taking and should be regularly and consistently communicated. Please see below for more information:

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/covid19/health-safety-and-wellbeing/infection-control>

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Contraception Provision Without face to face Consultations

A guide to managing 'Contraception Provision Without face to face Consultations' has been compiled by the Primary Care Woman's Health Forum. This has been produced to help primary care clinicians support women with their contraceptive needs during the Covid-19 pandemic. To access the document, click below: <https://pcwhf.co.uk/resources/how-to-manage-contraceptive-provision-without-face-to-face-consultations/>

Deployment of UG and pre-reg Pharmacy Tech Students

Guidance facilitating the deployment of UG pharmacy and pre-reg pharmacy tech students has been released. It sets out a number of principles on how students and employers can support safe and effective deployment of pharmacy students within pharmacy settings, during the emergency period. For more information, click following website: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/sites/default/files/documents/MPharm%20student%20deployment%20joint%20guidance%20FINAL.pdf>

Students who wish to register their interest to be deployed to support the pharmacy workforce, should do so via the HEE Pharmacy Student COVID-19 Deployment Survey which can be accessed on the HEE website:

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-information-pharmacists-pharmacy-technicians>

Update on General Practice Nursing Workforce

A Message from Philippa Stupple

All the courses **except** for the September 2019 and January 2020 Foundation in General Practice Nursing course have been suspended. This includes Long Term Conditions, Minor Illness, Leadership, Diabetes degree module, Mental health First Aid course and the GPN Conference. As soon as we are through this challenging time we will send all the revised dates.

The September 2019 and January 2020 Foundation course is being supported remotely by Bournemouth University.

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A GPN Directory for all COVID-19 information is being collated about what is able to be continued within practice and remotely. A number of you have asked what to do regarding **cervical cytology** and now new national guidance has been released. This information can be found [here](#).

If you wish to join me, Philippa Stupple, on a Microsoft Teams meeting please do send an email to Molly who is now my P.A. and admin support to the PCTH: Molly.McCallum@hee.nhs.uk. We will then send an invite to you. Also please feel free to contact me at any time on my email if you require any guidance or information: Philipa.Stupple@hee.nhs.uk

Finally thank you to all those who are continuing to support the workforce and being adaptable in how this is delivered. The work you are doing is challenging and will never be forgotten.

Last but not least...

To keep updated with Covid-19 information for primary care, please visit the PCTH webpage.

This page has been developed to provide information, answer your questions and signpost to relevant support resources. During this outbreak, it's more important than ever that we help support our communities and the people they serve, so please use the link below for frequently updated information: <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-information-primary-care>

We hope you are all feeling well supported and continue to look after yourselves. If you need to contact a member of the PCTH team, you can do so by visiting our page (link above).