

Baddow Village Surgery
Patient Participation Group Update at 6th November 2021

NHS Primary Care Bulletin

4 Nov 2021

Paediatric pulse oximeters to provide support over the winter

Four thousand paediatric pulse oximeters have been bought by NHS England and NHS Improvement to support GPs and primary care over the winter and aide the assessment of children with respiratory conditions. The pulse oximeters are being distributed by regional teams and those receiving the oximeters will be provided links to information, training, guidance on the E-Learning for Healthcare portal alongside a dedicated email for product support.

Measuring oximetry in young children can be challenging and the supplied equipment has been procured with reliability and ease of use in children in mind. The project will provide a valuable learning opportunity to understand the benefits of using pulse oximeters within primary care and qualitative evaluation will be undertaken to inform any future decisions on a wider roll-out.

Resources available for the Winter Vaccinations public facing campaign

There are now more resources available for the Winter Vaccinations public facing campaign, as well as more coronavirus resources from Public Health England.

These include [social animations](#) for over 50s and Long Term Health Conditions, [TV advert](#), alternative formats for [social animations](#) and [large print posters](#), [alternative TV advert](#) with BSL and subtitles, and a [communications toolkit](#).

There are also coronavirus materials available for download, including [schools testing](#), [festivals and celebrations](#) and [COVID-19 response](#).

HAPIA Bulletin

2 Nov 2021

Explaining same day emergency care - GPs, community response teams, NHS 111 and ambulances can directly refer patients to same day emergency care (SDEC), where appropriate, allowing people to spend hours, rather than days, in hospital. This brief [animation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rokhVD_1XSE) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rokhVD_1XSE] explains the benefits and purpose for staff and patients.

4th Nov

The government is set to **miss its manifesto pledge** of delivering an extra 6,000 full-time equivalent GPs by 2024, health and social care secretary Sajid Javid has told MPs.

Medicines and medical goods which are at risk of shortages will be transported to the UK 'within days' through a new international transport system, the government has announced. Swiss logistics company Kuehne+Nagel International will operate the new International Express Freight Service, which will "fast track" medicines to the UK when there is an urgent need or a supplier's own logistical arrangements are disrupted. The contract has a value of £382m, according to Contracts Finder, and has been awarded for 12 months with the option of an extension. DHSC says the move will help make sure patients can continue to access the treatments they need, support supply chain issues in the UK and "mitigate potential shortages" of medical goods.

Taken from South Woodham Ferrers Health Bulletin 4 Nov 2021

(Source NHS website) Find a walk-in coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination site. From Monday 1st November if you live in England, you can use this service to find a walk-in coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination site. You can get a COVID-19 vaccine from a walk-in site without an appointment.

You can use a walk-in site to get:

- a 1st dose of the vaccine - if you or your child are aged 12 or over
- a 2nd dose of the vaccine - if you're eligible and it's been 8 weeks since your 1st dose
- a booster dose of the vaccine - if you're eligible and it's been 6 months (182 days) since your 2nd dose

You do not need to be registered with a GP to use a walk-in site.

If you're eligible for a booster dose - Please note that all walk-in sites for people aged 16 and over can offer booster doses unless stated otherwise in the site's name.

(Source - Care Quality Commission) Adult inpatient survey 2020 - This survey looks at the experiences of people who stayed at least one night in hospital as an inpatient. This year, for the first time, participants of the survey were offered the choice of responding online or via paper-based questionnaires.

What we found

The results show that, generally, people's experiences of inpatient care were positive and overall differences between COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 patients were small, suggesting that care provided was consistent. Most people said they were treated with respect and dignity, had confidence and trust in the doctors and nurses that treated them and observed high levels of cleanliness.

Survey findings were less positive, however, for areas of care including people's experiences of receiving emotional support, information sharing and hospital discharge.

There is a detailed report on Mid & South Essex Hospitals (Southend, Basildon and Broomfield) which you can download from - nhssurveys.org/all-files/02-adults-inpatients/05-benchmarks-reports/2020/ by scrolling down to Mid & South Essex Hospitals.

From The Economist 4th November (extract)

Hitting the nail on the head - An effective new drug to treat covid-19 emerges from Merck

Thor, the Norse thunder-god, was reputed to carry a hammer known as Mjollnir—a tool for destroying enemies and blessing friends. The hammer has provided suitable inspiration for the name of a powerful new drug to fight covid-19: molnupiravir. That drug has just been approved by Britain's national medicines regulatory agency—the first in the world to do so. Molnupiravir, made by Merck, a big pharma firm, and a Florida-based biotech called Ridgeback Biotherapeutics, is the first oral antiviral medicine available to treat covid-19. The approval marks another milestone in the world's fight against covid-19.

Other countries are also working quickly to approve the new medicine, which has provoked keen interest. Last month the interim results of a trial found that patients with a risk factor for covid-19 were 50% less likely to be hospitalised or die if the oral antiviral was taken in the first five days after symptoms. Britain has secured 480,000 courses of molnupiravir, and sales of the drug are already brisk. America, Australia, Britain, the Philippines, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam are some of the countries that have secured deals, or are in the process of doing so.

Demand is likely to be very high. The drug will be used to treat patients who have not been vaccinated, or who remain at high risk despite having had a jab. Doctors now have a medicine to offer those most at risk from covid, which patients can take at home. The drug is also expected to be affordable globally. It is expected that rich countries will pay \$700 a course for the drug, but low-income ones will pay something closer to \$20—and maybe less as time goes on.