

# Current awareness for Nursing

## Recent guidelines and reports, articles and websites

### February 2021

Items relating specifically to Covid-19 start on page 8

### Guidelines

The following new guidance has recently been published:

**[Children and Young People's Nursing: a Philosophy of Care. RCN guidance for nursing staff.](#)**

Royal College of Nursing (RCN); 2021.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/rcn-cyp-philosophy-of-care-uk-pub-009433>

[Children and young people's nursing practice is underpinned by beliefs that are based upon the nature of the child or young person, and their status and rights within both the family and society. This updated publication highlights the importance of these beliefs in the practice of all practitioners involved in strategic, professional and service developments for infants, children and young people.] *Freely available online*

**[Conversations for ethically complex care: A framework to support discussion and documentation of decision making for levels of care in clinical practice](#)**

Royal College of Physicians (RCP); 2021.

<https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/file/28256/download>

[This guidance provides a framework for ethical discussions to support decision making and documentation in clinical practice. It outlines a structured, patient-focused approach suitable for use by all professional groups, specialties and in all care settings. It is intended to be disease- or diagnosis-agnostic and to ensure fair and equitable care for all, without causing harm to their long-term health and wellbeing. Accompanied by an Ethical Care Decision-Making Record (ECDMR)] *Freely available online*

**[Good communication with patients, version 1, 21 January 2021.](#)**

NHS England; 2021.

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/publication/good-communication-with-patients/>

[The challenge COVID-19 poses means that clear, concise and timely communication with patients is more critical than ever. This guidance, and these supporting documents, present providers with core principles that will help deliver personalised, patient-centred communications to patients who are waiting for care.] *Freely available online*

**[Leukomed Sorbact for preventing surgical site infection.](#)**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mtg55>

[1 Recommendations 1.1 Evidence supports the case for adopting Leukomed Sorbact for closed surgical wounds after caesarean section and vascular surgery. 1.2 Leukomed Sorbact should be considered as an option for people with wounds that are expected to have low to moderate exudate after caesarean section and vascular surgery. It should be used as part of usual measures to help reduce the risk of surgical site infection.] *Freely available online*

### **Modern Ward Rounds: Executive Summary and Recommendations.**

Royal College of Nursing (RCN); 2021.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/professional-development/publications/rcn-modern-ward-rounds-executive-summary-and-recommendations-uk-pub-009567>

[This publication contains the executive summary and recommendations from a new report from UK health care professional leaders, and developed along with patients, setting out best practice for modern ward rounds. The guidance was produced by the Royal College of Physicians, Royal College of Nursing, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, NHS England and has the support of the GIRFT programme. Also links to publications 009 566, 009 568 and 009 569.] *Freely available online*

### **The VAC Veraflo Therapy system for acute infected or chronic wounds that are failing to heal.**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/mtg54>

[1 Recommendations 1.1 The VAC Veraflo Therapy system shows promise for treating acute infected or chronic wounds that are not healing. However there is not enough good-quality evidence to support the case for routine adoption. 1.2 Research in the form of a randomised controlled trial is recommended to show clinically meaningful benefits for the VAC Veraflo Therapy system compared with negative pressure wound therapy alone. A key outcome should be time to wound closure.] *Freely available online*

## **Websites**

### **7 Screen-Free Ways to Work and Learn: How to Avoid Screen Fatigue and Improve Performance.**

Mind Tools; 2021.

<https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/screen-free-work-learn.htm>

[In this article, we'll outline the benefits of taking time away from your screen, and explain seven of the best non-screen ways to work and learn.] *Freely available online*

## **Events**

### **Clinical Human Factors Group (CHFG) Virtual Conference: The impact of staff well-being on creating safety.**

[A virtual event of lively presentations examining the individual and system factors that affect patient safety and staff well-being. If you previously purchased a ticket for this event you may carry the ticket over, otherwise please register. £75-£150.]

Online

Date: 18th March, 2021, 9:00am-12:45pm

<https://chfg.org/the-impact-of-staff-wellbeing-on-patient-safety/>

## **Reports**

*The following report(s) may be of interest:*

### **DOAC Dipstick for detecting direct oral anticoagulants.**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/mib248>

[The technology described in this briefing is the DOA SENSE DOAC Dipstick. It is used for detecting direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs) in urine. The innovative aspects are that the technology is a point-of-care test with results available within 10 minutes. The test is also a non-invasive method of detecting DOACs compared with standard laboratory tests that involve collecting a blood sample.] *Freely available online*

### **Faecal microbiota transplant for recurrent or refractory Clostridioides difficile infection.**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/mib247>

[The procedure described in this briefing is faecal microbiota transplant (FMT). It is used to treat recurrent or refractory Clostridioides difficile infection. The innovative aspects are that it uses transplanted gut bacteria to treat the infection rather than antibiotics. The intended place in therapy would be as alternative to repeat courses of

antibiotics for people with recurrent or refractory *C. difficile* infection for whom standard treatment has not worked.]

### **[Influenza infection.](#)**

BMJ Best Practice; 2021.

<https://bestpractice.bmj.com/topics/en-gb/6/>

[Update 03 February 2021: Baloxavir marboxil approved for post-exposure prophylaxis of influenza. The approved indication for baloxavir marboxil has been expanded in the US and in Europe to include post-exposure prophylaxis of influenza for patients 12 years of age and older.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

### **[SACN statement on nutrition and older adults.](#)**

Public Health England (PHE); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sacn-statement-on-nutrition-and-older-adults>

[The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) position statement on nutrition and older adults living in the community.]

## **Articles**

*The following article(s) may be of interest:*

### **[A soft silicone foam dressing that aids healing and comfort in oncology care.](#)**

Pramod S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):40–46.

[Maintaining skin integrity plays a key role in the ongoing care and comfort of patients at the end of life. Unfortunately, patients receiving cancer treatments are at higher risk of altered skin integrity. Cancer treatments involve multiple modalities, all of which impair wound healing. Excess exudate can be distressing to patients, resulting in catastrophic damage to the wound bed and surrounding skin, reducing quality of life and increasing the need for specialist services.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

### **[An opportunistic evaluation of a routine service improvement project to reduce falls in hospital.](#)**

Sheppard D. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):79.

[Preventing falls in hospital is a perennial patient safety issue. The University Hospital Coventry and Warwickshire initiated a programme to train ward staff in accordance with guidelines. The National Institute for Health Research Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care West Midlands was asked to expedite an independent evaluation of the initiative. The intervention was associated with a small but statistically significant improvement in falls rates.]

### **[Benchmarking experience to improve paediatric healthcare: listening to the voices of families from two European Children's University Hospitals.](#)**

Corazza I. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):93.

[This paper describes the development of a PREMs questionnaire and administration system for the Meyer Children's University Hospital in Florence (Meyer) and the Children's Clinical University Hospital in Riga (CCUH). Very similar reported scores may reflect broadly shared preferences among children, adolescents and carers in the two countries, and the ability of both hospitals in this study to meet their expectations.]

### **[Best practice skin antisepsis for insertion of peripheral catheters.](#)**

Clare S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):8–14.

[This article discusses the importance of effective skin antisepsis prior to the insertion of peripheral intravenous catheters (PIVCs) and how best clinical practice is promoted by application of an appropriate method of skin disinfection integrated effectively with a proprietary aseptic non touch technique, or other standard aseptic technique.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

### **[Deprescribing fall-risk increasing drugs \(FRIDs\) for the prevention of falls and fall-related complications: a systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)**

Lee J. *BMJ Open* 2021;11(2):e035978.

[There is a paucity of robust high-quality evidence to support or refute that a FRID deprescribing strategy alone is effective at preventing falls or fall-related injury in older adults. Although there may be other reasons to deprescribe FRIDs, our systematic review found that it may result in little to no difference in the rate or risk of falls as a sole falls reduction strategy.] *Freely available online*

#### **[Development and evaluation of an intravascular link nurse network to sustain improvements in practice.](#)**

McGuire R. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(2):S16–S22.

[An intravascular link nurse network has been created within the Trust to improve standards in the care of vascular access devices. The goal is to protect patients from VAD-related complications by educating colleagues in best practice standards. The group has demonstrated the benefits of undertaking the LN role with 93% noting that it helped in their personal and professional development; 87% extremely likely to recommend the programme to others and 80% found the workshops excellent.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **[Effect of the vancomycin minimum inhibitory concentration on clinical outcomes in patients with methicillin-susceptible \*Staphylococcus aureus\* bacteraemia: a systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)**

Shi C. *BMJ Open* 2021;11(1):e040675.

[The available data suggest an association between elevated vancomycin MICs detected using Etest and adverse clinical outcomes for patients with MSSA bacteraemia. Future studies should validate these findings and explore the potential mechanisms.] *Freely available online*

#### **[Factors influencing nurses' engagement with CPD activities: a systematic review.](#)**

Walter JK. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):60–68.

[Continuing professional development (CPD) is necessary for nurse registration and development. Understanding the factors influencing engagement may enhance CPD uptake. This was a systematic review incorporating narrative synthesis. Database searches for published and grey literature from January 1995 to November 2018 were conducted via EBSCO Discovery Service, the British Nursing Index and the British Library.]

*Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **[Fighting a common enemy: a catalyst to close intractable safety gaps. \[Viewpoint\]](#)**

Singh H. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2021;30(2):141-145.

[Conclusion: Similar to COVID-19, safety issues affect all healthcare stakeholders, including patients and clinicians, either physically, financially or emotionally. The existential threat that every healthcare stakeholder is facing during the COVID-19 crisis has galvanised a response across multiple stakeholders with promising strides that could improve future safety culture, prioritise workforce safety and remove barriers to use of IT to improve safety.]

#### **[Harms and Benefits of Subcutaneous Hydration in Older Patients: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.](#)**

Danielsen MB. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* 2020;68(12):2937-2946.

[SC hydration is safer than IV hydration and potentially reduces the risk of agitation, but it is less effective. SC hydration should be available as an alternative to IV hydration when treating older patients for mild-to-moderate dehydration. More high-quality studies are needed in the field to increase the confidence in the estimates.]

*Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **[Honey Combination Therapies for Skin and Wound Infections: A Systematic Review of the Literature.](#)**

McLoone P. *Clinical, Cosmetic and Investigational Dermatology* 2020;13:875-888 .

[The search revealed that synergistic or additive antimicrobial effects were observed in vitro when honey was combined with antibiotics, bacteriophages, antimicrobial peptides, natural agents, eg, ginger or propolis and other treatment approaches such as the use of chitosan hydrogel. Outcomes depended on the type of honey, the combining agent or treatment and the microbial species or strain.] *Freely available online*

#### **[Influence of bedspacing on outcomes of hospitalised medicine service patients: a retrospective cohort study.](#)**

Kohn R. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2021;30(2):116-122.

[Conclusion: Bedspacing is associated with adverse patient-centred outcomes. Future work is needed to confirm these findings, understand mechanisms contributing to adverse outcomes and identify factors that mitigate these adverse effects in order to provide high-value, patient-centred care to hospitalised patients.]

### [Interventions to Improve Clinical Outcomes in Older Adults Admitted to a Surgical Service: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis.](#)

Thillainadesan J. *Journal of the American Medical Directors Association* 2020;21(12):1833-1843.

[Perioperative geriatric interventions targeted at older nonorthopedic surgical patients improve some clinically relevant outcomes. There is a need for these interventions to be further evaluated in high-quality studies, and future research should explore how to effectively implement these interventions within complex health care systems.]

Contact the library for a copy of this article

### [Introducing advanced level practice and the scope of developing new roles.](#)

Hill B. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):28-31.

[Advanced clinical practice is a defined level of expertise within health and care professions such as nursing, pharmacy, paramedics and occupational therapy. Practice at this level is designed to transform and modernise pathways of care, enabling the safe and effective sharing of skills across traditional professional boundaries (Health Education England (HEE), 2017)] Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

### [Lean thinking: using 6S and visual management for efficient adverse event closure.](#)

Alzahrani Z. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(1):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-001197.

[Conclusions: The developed process map was a useful communication tool. It helped to sort process activities, team roles and streamline the process. It brought the average number of days until closure within the acceptable 45-day limit for medication incidents. Thus, using visual aids in the working environment is helpful in improving communication among the workers.]

### [Looking back over the past year in patient safety.](#)

Tingle J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):76-77.

[In 2021 it is important to look back and consider whether there have been any landmark changes in clinical negligence and patient safety in the NHS, whether it is possible to discern any positive or negative progress towards the development of ingrained patient safety culture. My columns in 2020 discussed several clinical negligence and patient safety issues. Although the COVID-19 pandemic has forced major changes and challenges for the NHS, we have seen staff and systems rise to meet these.] Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

### [Management of Nonhealable and Maintenance Wounds: A Systematic Integrative Review and Referral Pathway.](#)

Boersema GC. *Advances in Skin & Wound Care* 2021;34(1):11-22 .

[Strong evidence on the clinical management of nonhealable wounds is limited. Few studies describe outcomes specific to maintenance care. Patient-centered care, timely intervention by skilled healthcare providers, and involvement of the interprofessional team emerged as the central themes of effective management of maintenance and nonhealable wounds.] Freely available online

### [Medication-related interventions delivered both in hospital and following discharge: a systematic review and meta-analysis.](#)

Daliri S. *BMJ Quality & Safety* 2021;30(2):146-156.

[Conclusions: Studied medication-related interventions reduce all-cause hospital readmissions within 30 days. The treatment effect appears to increase with higher intervention intensities. More evidence is needed for recommendations on adherence, mortality and medication-related problems (MRPs),.]

### [Outcomes of wound care nurses' practice in patients with pressure ulcers: An integrative review.](#)

Monaco D. *Journal of Clinical Nursing* 2020;:doi: 10.1111/jocn.15583.

[There is promising evidence of a positive impact of wound care nurses' practice on health and economic outcomes. Nonetheless, more robust and rigorous research is needed to provide stronger evidence in the field and support investment in these practitioners.] Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users

### [Oxygen therapy in a hospital setting.](#)

Ford C. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(2):96-100.

[Use of oxygen therapy as a treatment strategy is commonplace and for many patients a lifesaving intervention; however, it must be used carefully. This article has not only provided the reader with knowledge to help them appreciate the benefits of oxygen administration but also highlighted the potential risks involved in administering

oxygen to a patient and how following guidelines and adhering to guidelines around prescriptions, environment and the equipment is crucial to success.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **Personal protective equipment: knowledge of the guidance.**

Bhamra N. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):16–22.

[On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a global pandemic in the wake of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak. The unpredictable nature of transmission of COVID-19 requires a meticulous understanding of guidance on personal protective equipment (PPE) as published by WHO and Public Health England (PHE). This survey aimed to assess perceived confidence and knowledge of PHE guidance relating to PPE by nursing staff.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **Preventable adverse drug events causing hospitalisation: identifying root causes and developing a surveillance and learning system at an urban community hospital, a cross-sectional observational study.**

de Lemos J. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(1):DOI: 10.1136/bmj-oq-2020-001161.

[Conclusions: To prevent preventable adverse drug events (pADEs), providers need to confirm that patients/families understand information given, how a medication helps them, how to recognise and respond to side effects, how to enact medication changes and follow action plans; providers should assess patient's/families' medication use and monitoring competency.]

#### **Preventing and managing device-related pressure ulcers in oncology.**

Pramod S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):48–53.

[There is growing evidence that medical device-related pressure ulcers (MDRPU) are an increasing healthcare concern in all aspects of care. It is especially important to develop an individualised care plan for people at the end of life to prevent pressure ulceration and to treat this if it occurs. Tissue viability nurses have a responsibility to review and assess new prophylactic devices and dressings, to ensure a high standard of care is provided.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **Raising and escalating concerns about patient care: RCN guidance.**

Glasper A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(2):128-129.

[In November 2020 the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) published a new policy document for nurses, nursing associates, students and healthcare support workers entitled Raising and Escalating Concerns (RCN, 2020). The document emphasised that all care staff should feel safe and supported when raising any concerns about patient care. The guidance is timely, given the stress on NHS staff caused by the ongoing pandemic.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **Social participation of people with chronic wounds: A systematic review.**

Klein TM. *International Wound Journal* 2020;:doi: 10.1111/iwj.13533.

[In summary, people with chronic wounds experience impairments in all aspects of social participation. Therefore, social participation deserves increased attention in routine care both as a trigger of burden and as an outcome of therapy.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **The ascent to advanced practice: challenges, support and opportunities.**

Reynolds J. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(2):106-108.

[The challenges that have an impact on the journey to advanced clinical practice are many. However, with structured support the opportunity to develop to this level can be nurtured. This article will reflect on this development and discuss some of the difficulties for trainee advanced clinical practitioners. The article will also consider the importance of clinical supervision, mentorship and support mechanisms that may assist in developing advanced clinical practice and facilitate progression.] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

#### **The development of advanced clinical practice roles in the UK.**

Diamond-Fox S. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):32–33.

[The evolution of advanced clinical practice roles within the UK began in the 1980s (Leary and MacLaine, 2019) and has continued to develop in various forms internationally since. The NHS Long Term Plan (NHS England and NHS Improvement, 2019) has been the most recent key driver for advanced clinical practice within England, along with a

multiprofessional framework that outlines the capabilities expected of practitioners working at advanced level.]  
*Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

### **[The importance of upholding the duty of candour during patient care.](#)**

Glasper A. *British Journal of Nursing* 2021;30(1):74–75.

[In light of recent media coverage, Emeritus Professor Alan Glasper discusses policies and guidance pertinent to the duty of candour. In September 2020 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) successfully prosecuted University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust for breaching duty of candour policies. At Plymouth Magistrates' Court the Trust was ordered to pay a total of £12 565 in the case of an elderly patient who died following an incident during an endoscopy in 2017 (Morris, 2020).] *Available with an NHS OpenAthens password for eligible users*

### **[The Incidence of Pressure Ulcers and its Associations in Different Wards of the Hospital: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.](#)**

Borojeny LA. *International Journal of Preventive Medicine* 2020;11:171 .

[The highest incidence of pressure ulcers was observed among inpatients in orthopedic surgery ward (18.5%) (95% CI: 11.5-25). According to the final results, better conditions should be provided to decrease the incidence of pressure ulcers in different wards, especially orthopedics, and in patients with diabetes.]

*Freely available online*

### **[The obesity paradigm and the role of health services in obesity prevention: a grounded theory approach.](#)**

Pearce C. *BMC Health Services Research* 2021;21(1):111.

[The aim of this research was to examine whether and how hospital and community-based health services incorporate adult obesity prevention into policy and practice. An alternative systems-level approach is needed to align health service responses with contemporary approaches that address obesity prevention as a complex problem.]

### **[Topical antibiotic prophylaxis to reduce respiratory tract infections and mortality in adults receiving mechanical ventilation.](#)**

Minozzi S. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2021;1:CD000022.

[OBJECTIVES: To assess the effect of topical antibiotic regimens (SDD and SOD), given alone or in combination with systemic antibiotics, to prevent mortality and respiratory infections in patients receiving mechanical ventilation for at least 48 hours in ICUs.]

### **[Writing's on the wall: improving the WHO Surgical Safety Checklist.](#)**

Cushley C. *BMJ Open Quality* 2021;10(1):DOI: 10.1136/bmjopen-2020-001086.

[Conclusions: Although the paper checklist was completed before every operation, there was often a lack of engagement by the entire team during this process. Wall-mounted checklists are present in other hospitals, and there was a drive to introduce such a change here, so the benefits of the checklist could be fully achieved. Compliance improved from 55% to 99% with 'Sign In' and from 91% to 100% with 'Time Out'. Engagement improved from 58% to 100%. The project aim was achieved.]

# Covid-19

## Guidelines

### [COVID-19: Occupational health and safety for health workers.](#)

World Health Organization (WHO); 2021.

[https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-HCW\\_advice-2021.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-HCW_advice-2021.1)

[Occupational hazards for health workers on the front line include exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and other pathogens, violence, harassment, stigma, discrimination, heavy workload and prolonged use of personal protective equipment (PPE). This document provides specific measures to protect occupational health and safety of health workers and highlights the duties, rights and responsibilities for health and safety at work in the context of COVID-19.]

### [Designated settings for people discharged to a care home.](#)

Public Health England (PHE); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-settings-for-people-discharged-to-a-care-home>

[Guidance on the designated settings scheme for people discharged from hospital to a care home with a positive coronavirus (COVID-19) test.

25 January 2021: Updated 'Discharge into care homes: designated settings' to remove line from section 3.16 on 'As a last resort, one option could be for COVID-19 positive individuals to be temporarily discharged under existing arrangements, to a non-designated care home, with sufficient IPC arrangements, that is willing to receive the individual.']

### [Interleukin-6 inhibitors \(tocilizumab or sarilumab\) for critically ill patients with COVID-19 pneumonia \(adults\)](#)

Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA); 2021.

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e6613a1dc75b87df82b78e1/t/6023e71e460d1d1544ae3915/1612965663638/COVID+19+Theraputic+alert.pdf>

[UK Interim Clinical Commissioning Policies have now been published, recommending that two Interleukin-6 (IL-6) inhibitors -tocilizumab and sarilumab-are made available as a treatment option for critically ill adult patients (aged 18 years and older) hospitalised with COVID-19 in accordance with the agreed criteria] *Freely available online*

### [Vaccinated patients guidance](#)

Royal College of Surgeons (RCS); 2021.

<https://www.rcseng.ac.uk/coronavirus/vaccinated-patients-guidance/>

[This statement expresses the hope that everyone for whom the vaccine is suitable is vaccinated, for their own benefit and to protect the health of those who are vulnerable. It describes the need for doctors to act as exemplars and do all they can to ensure that they are able to protect themselves and avoid spreading COVID-19 to patients or colleagues, and that unless there are good reasons why it is not personally appropriate, doctors should be vaccinated.] *Freely available online*

## Reports

### [Coronavirus: Long Covid.](#)

House of Commons Library; 2021.

<https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-9112/>

[This briefing provide an overview of long Covid, the impacts of this condition and the development of clinical guidance and services for those affected. It also provides links to further reading and Parliamentary material.]

*Freely available online*

### [COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: Sarilumab for COVID-19.](#)

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/es34/chapter/Product-overview>

[Preliminary evidence from the REMAP-CAP study has suggested that sarilumab is beneficial in adults with severe COVID-19 who are critically ill and receiving respiratory or cardiovascular organ support in an intensive care setting. Sarilumab was given within about 24 hours of starting organ support.] *Freely available online*

### **[COVID-19 rapid evidence summary: Tocilizumab for COVID-19.](#)**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE); 2021.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/advice/es33/chapter/Product-overview>

[Unpublished preliminary evidence from the REMAP-CAP study has suggested that tocilizumab is beneficial in adults with severe COVID-19 who are critically ill and receiving respiratory or cardiovascular organ support in an intensive care setting (all randomised within 24 hours of starting organ support).] *Freely available online*

### **[Factors influencing COVID-19 vaccine uptake among minority ethnic groups, 17 December 2020.](#)**

Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE); 2021.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/factors-influencing-covid-19-vaccine-uptake-among-minority-ethnic-groups-17-december-2020>

[Paper by the ethnicity sub-group on factors influencing COVID-19 vaccine uptake among minority ethnic groups. It was considered at SAGE 73 on 17 December 2020. The paper is the assessment of the evidence at the time of writing.]

### **[Malnutrition and Nutritional Care of COVID-19 Patients in Hospitals during the first wave of the pandemic.](#)**

British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN); 2021.

<https://www.bapen.org.uk/news-and-media/news/869-a-summary-of-the-bapen-hospital-covid-19-survey-of-health-care-professionals>

[A summary of the BAPEN Hospital COVID-19 Survey of Health Care Professionals. The survey was designed to investigate challenges in delivering nutritional care in ICU and HDU, and on general wards. It covers issues identifying malnutrition risk, the barriers to delivering good nutritional care on the wards, and nutritional strategies, as well as particular challenges relating to discharge.] *Freely available online*

### **[Management of coexisting conditions in the context of COVID-19.](#)**

BMJ Best Practice; 2021.

<https://bestpractice.bmj.com/topics/en-gb/3000190/>

[Further guidelines have been published to inform the management of patients with coexisting conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Updated 26/01/21: Considerations for perinatal care (updated); Use of ACE inhibitors and angiotensin receptor blockers (updated); Potential impact of COVID-19 pandemic on diagnosis and management of other conditions (updated); Essential hypertension (updated); Giant cell arteritis (new)]

*Available with an NHS OpenAthens password*

### **[Perspectives from the front line: The disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on BME communities.](#)**

NHS Confederation BME Leadership Network; 2020.

[https://www.nhsconfed.org/-/media/Confederation/Files/Publications/Documents/Perspectives-from-the-front-line\\_FNL\\_Dec2020.pdf](https://www.nhsconfed.org/-/media/Confederation/Files/Publications/Documents/Perspectives-from-the-front-line_FNL_Dec2020.pdf)

[A report into the disproportionate impact of coronavirus on BAME communities based on interviews with BME NHS leaders, clinicians, community organisations and service users, as well as a survey of more than 100 members of the BME Leadership Network. Overwhelmingly, participants point to long-standing inequalities and institutional racism as root causes.]

## **Articles**

### **[Clinical Decision Making During the COVID-19 Pandemic.](#)**

Metlay JP. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 2021;:doi.org/10.7326/M20-8179.

[This American article discusses potential approaches to 3 ongoing areas of uncertainty in COVID-19 management: diagnosis, treatment and prevention. For each, the current state of knowledge is reviewed, the level of uncertainty is highlighted and a pathway forward is suggested.] *Freely available online*

### **[Early initiation of prophylactic anticoagulation for prevention of coronavirus disease 2019 mortality in patients admitted to hospital in the United States: cohort study.](#)**

Rentsch CT. *BMJ* 2021;372:n311.

[Early initiation of prophylactic anticoagulation compared with no anticoagulation among patients admitted to

hospital with covid-19 was associated with a decreased risk of 30 day mortality and no increased risk of serious bleeding events. These findings provide strong real world evidence to support guidelines recommending the use of prophylactic anticoagulation as initial treatment for patients with covid-19 on hospital admission.]

**[Major Update: Remdesivir for Adults With COVID-19: A Living Systematic Review and Meta-analysis for the American College of Physicians Practice Points.](#)**

Kaka AS. *Annals of Internal Medicine* 2021;:doi.org/10.7326/M20-8148.

[In hospitalized adults with COVID-19, remdesivir probably results in little to no mortality difference but probably improves the percentage recovered and reduces serious harms and may result in a small reduction in the proportion receiving ventilation. For patients not receiving ventilation, a 5-day course may provide greater benefits and fewer harms with lower drug costs than a 10-day course.] *Freely available online*

**[Prophylactic anticoagulants for people hospitalised with COVID-19.](#)**

Flumignan RL. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2020;10:CD013739.

[OBJECTIVES: To assess the effects of prophylactic anticoagulants versus active comparator, placebo or no intervention, on mortality and the need for respiratory support in people hospitalised with COVID-19.]

**Website**

**[Covid-19 Vaccine Resource Center](#)**

New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM); 2021.

[https://www.nejm.org/covid-vaccine?utm\\_source=wb-en&utm\\_medium=alert&utm\\_campaign=c19jan&utm\\_content=cta](https://www.nejm.org/covid-vaccine?utm_source=wb-en&utm_medium=alert&utm_campaign=c19jan&utm_content=cta)

[To realize the potential of recently developed Covid-19 vaccines, clinicians must work effectively with patients and communities to administer them widely. The NEJM Vaccine Resource Center helps busy clinicians with practical information and advice providing a collection of resources on Covid-19 vaccines, including frequently asked questions, continuing medical education, published research, and commentary.] *Freely available online*

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