

Issue 8

May 2021

**Patient Forum Bulletin**

**For Practice Patient Groups in North Tyneside**

Welcome to the latest edition of the Patient Forum Bulletin in which we update GP Practice Patient Groups about what’s happening in the Forum. The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to impact on us and the way we work and we continue to meet by video using Microsoft Teams for both Forum meetings and for our working groups too. This will continue until deemed safe to resume face to face meetings.

**Patient Forum meeting 13th May 2021**

The Patient Forum met on 13th May using Microsoft Teams and were joined by Dr Lesley Young Murphy from the CCG and Dr Stephanie Mulrine from Northumbria University.

**Working Groups Information**

The Working Group briefing accompanies this Bulletin however there were some additional points noted during the meeting.

Membership of the North Tyneside Cancer Plan has been sought from the wider Practice Participation Groups.

A Forum member has been involved in a group looking at voluntary sector support for the bereaved in North Tyneside.

North Tyneside is to have a Recovery College style service for young people experiencing issues with mental health.

GP appointments were discussed and the CCG is working with practices to ensure that processes both digital and practical work well for patients and practices.

Increasing Forum membership was discussed with a view to widening the scope of engagement throughout the whole community to ensure all groups are represented.

**CCG update**

Dr Lesley Young-Murphy Executive Director of Nursing and Chief Operating Officer

NHS North Tyneside CCG gave an update.

**Recovery Plans**

Lesley took the opportunity to demonstrate how services in hospital, primary care, social care and the community are working as we are coming through the pandemic. There are many recovery plans in place and the CCG is working with all partners across the system to ensure waiting times are brought down. Every speciality is the same with a programme of work although some areas have no longer waiting list than they would normally have.

Lesley confirmed the screening programmes are continuing.

**COVID-19 beds**

There are 18 dedicated COVID beds in North Tyneside which remain in place until August for people who come out of hospital but need to continue isolating for a time before they go to their usual place of residence. Most recently, thankfully, there are no patients in those beds, and they haven’t been used to capacity. The emerging picture does look positive and this continues to be monitored.

**Stephanie Mulrine – Northumbria University**

**Care Homes research update**

We received a recap of the work streams involved in the Care Home research project;

Work stream 1 consists of structured interviews with care home managers and 150 are in the planning stage across North Tyneside and the South West, a narrative systematic scoping review has identified 252 pieces of research that refer to incident reporting in care/nursing homes.

Work stream 2 will explore how care homes report safety incidents that relate to the wider health and social care system, also how transitions have been managed safely during the pandemic will be considered. Qualitative interviews with care home staff and non-care home staff will be carried out.

Members heard some very early feedback about transition, patient needs, paperwork and communication between different staff teams as well as the culture differences between the settings.

Steph confirmed they have the opportunity to present preliminary findings at the British Society of Gerontology Annual Conference in July.

Keep up to date with progress by visiting the website; <https://research.northumbria.ac.uk/SafeST>

**Useful Links**

[www.northtynesideccg.nhs.uk/](http://www.northtynesideccg.nhs.uk/)

[www.healthwatchnorthtyneside.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchnorthtyneside.co.uk)

[www.ageuk.org.uk/northtyneside](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/northtyneside)

[www.voda.org.uk](http://www.voda.org.uk)

[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

[my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1429/coronavirus-covid-19](https://my.northtyneside.gov.uk/category/1429/coronavirus-covid-19)