



NHS England and NHS Improvement

Issue 6 – Fri 15 May 2020

Here is an update of the work we are doing in response to COVID-19 updates, including that undertaken with our partners. We will continue to share information with you regularly via email. If you have any queries relating to any of this content, please contact england.covid-eolc@nhs.net.

Key messages and updates

New guidance available

[Clinical guide for supporting compassionate visiting arrangements for those receiving care at the end of life](#) was published on 13 May 2020.

Please note that this guidance does not specify the length of visit that can be allowed as this depends on the individual circumstances and should be determined on local, case by case basis.

Updated guidance

We have updated the [Advance Care Plan guidance](#), which supports the editable template, on 11 May 2020.

Reminder of NHSE/I PEOLC guidance published so far

Attached is an overview detailing the guidance published so far.

Please always ensure you are using live links to download guidance to ensure you are accessing the most up to date versions, as some amendments are being made as circumstances change.

If you have any queries about guidance, please email england.covid-eolc@nhs.net.

Upcoming guidance

The following publications are currently awaiting clearance and we hope to share with you soon:

- Alternative routes to symptom management
- Standard operating procedure for children and young people

Weekly PEOLC sessions

Thank you to everyone who has joined our first four weekly sessions, we hope you have found them helpful. Q&As from the session on Thursday 7 May have now been shared with all attendees.

This week focused on advance care planning and personalised care, and we were joined by James Sanderson, Director of Personalised Care, Julie Stansfield from In Control and Dr Debbie Harvey from the NWC SCN team. Thank you to all our guests for taking part. All of the resources discussed and shared will be sent out with the Q&As.

Next week we continue the theme of 'Ambition 1: Each person is seen as an individual' and will be talking about bereavement. Keep an eye on our Twitter account @Pers_Care for speaker details.

Funding arrangements for bed and community care capacity in the hospice sector

Following the publication of [the hospice funding guidance](#) on 7 May 2020, we are working to ensure that we have maximum flexibility in the capacity being provided by hospices, as part of the local response to COVID-19.

Whilst primarily in place for palliative and end of life care provisions, these arrangements may also be utilised to ensure continued provision of care across all pathways where usual care arrangements are disrupted/destabilised or as a step-down package from secondary care. Whilst we recognise that hospices may be unable to provide like for like care, this does provide a mechanism for ensuring individuals remain safe and supported at this difficult time where usual care is unsettled.

Access to the National Capacity Tracker is available for CCGs when contingency planning, to identify where hospice capacity can be utilised. To access the National Capacity Tracker, individual members of organisations/CCGs will need to register and give details regarding their organisation and position. The link to register is <https://carehomes.necsu.nhs.uk/>.

For further guidance and support, please contact england.covid-eolc@nhs.net.

Dying Matters Week 11-17 May

We still have another couple of days of Dying Matters Week 2020 left and continue to promote conversations and encourage listening, around death and dying. We are supporting via our @Pers_Care Twitter account to share NHS E&I and partner resources which aid PEOLC conversations, particularly around COVID-19.

Please use these hashtags to join conversations: #DyingMatters #PEoLC #PalliCovid #DyingToBeHeard

Sharing good practice

Following our call last week, we know there is so much fantastic work happening out there and we would like to share this each week and through our channels. You can tag

our Twitter account, @Pers_Care in any tweets, and also send any stories or updates that you would like to share to england.covid-eolc@nhs.net

Guidance produced by other organisations

Having courageous conversations by telephone or video - guidance and podcast

[These guidelines have been developed by the RCN](#) to support nursing staff who are having to initiate challenging and courageous conversations with patients remotely.

They have been designed using the principles for having such conversations in a face to face setting but with the need to do this remotely over the phone or potentially by video. The guidelines are designed in the context of the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and they provide a framework and some useful pointers. There is also a podcast available to listen to, which supports this guidance.

Guidance for care of the deceased with suspected or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19)

This guidance, produced by DHSC, was updated on 12 May 2020 and [can be found here](#).

The Personalised Care Group

Palliative and End of Life Care Team