

20220125 – GP Bulletin 245

All documents referred to in this bulletin below have individual links that will take you straight to the document. Unless stated otherwise, all documents can be found on Clarity TeamNet. For the full group of documents [click here](#) and you will find them in the Bulletin box on the top right-hand side of the front page of Clarity TeamNet. This box is refreshed for each Bulletin. For all documents hosted on Clarity TeamNet you can also find them in the library.

Today's bulletin contains the following items:

COVID-19 update

1. [Vaccinations as a condition of deployment](#)
2. [Recording and slides from all primary care providers webinar \(20 January\)](#)

For action

3. [The step down bed service in Oxford](#)
4. [Ordering FFP3 face masks](#)

For information

5. [Changes to ENT referrals](#)
6. [Primary Care Estates Strategy 2020-2025](#)
7. ['Return to practice' training day – Wednesday 9 March](#)

Forthcoming webinars

8. [Alcohol brief intervention and motivational interviewing training](#)

COVID Update

1. Vaccinations as a condition of deployment (VCOD)

Following on from the LMC's VCOD webinar on Friday 21 January you can view supporting material that has been drawn up between BBO LMC and OCCG to help practices implement the NHSE guidance on Vaccination as a Condition of Deployment (VCOD) [see here](#)

This does not replace the NHSE guidance sent out, rather, it is an aide memoire. Though neither the LMC nor CCGs can provide practices with HR or legal advice, we hope this will support you in implementation.

You will note the guidance refers to the need for data privacy impact assessments. We are liaising with local Data Protection Officers to provide you with as much support as possible for this. This will follow shortly.

2. nMABs and more: recording and slides from all primary care providers webinar (20 January)

Thank you to everyone who took part in the webinar. You can view a recording of the event [see here](#) and view the presentation [see here](#)

For action

3. The step down bed service in Oxford

This OUH service is for patients who are medically ready for discharge but waiting for a care package or other services to be put in place before they can go home safely.

The hotel being used for this service is located at the Holiday Inn near the Peartree roundabout. It is a joint initiative between OUH, OH, adult social care, with therapists and carers available for patients.

The following contact details will help you if a patient requires an urgent on the day assessment:

- Patients will remain the responsibility of their own GP practice/GP while using the hotel.
- If a patient at the hotel requires district nurse input, please contact Single Point of Access on the Health Care Professionals line: 01865 904966.
- If a patient deteriorates but they only require a clinical assessment (not a 999 ambulance) please contact Single Point of Access on the Health Care Professionals line: 01865 904966 and request Urgent Community Response (UCR). They will send out a skilled professional from either UCR or one of the Hospital @ Home teams.
- The medical cover for Urgent Community Response (UCR) and Hospital @ Home teams in Oxfordshire (Monday to Friday) is via the Ambulatory Outreach team (AOT) Ring: 07887 631 924 or ring JR switchboard on 01865 234560 and request them to bleep 8118 09:00-17:00hrs.
- For Urgent Community Response Out of Hours (After 8pm), please ring 01865 904966, which is the same number as above but switches to the Out of Hours GP service.

4. Ordering FFP3 face masks

DHSC has confirmed FFP3 face masks are now available for general practices to order via the [PPE portal](#). An FFP3 respirator (or equivalent) for COVID-19, must be worn by staff when:

- performing aerosol generating procedures

- if deemed necessary following [local risk assessment](#) based on a review of the systems in place to control risks in the workplace (hierarchy of controls).

Practices must arrange for staff to be fit tested before ordering the equipment. It is a [legal requirement on employers](#) that all tight fitting RPE, such as, FFP3 masks must be fit tested on all health and care staff who may be required to wear one to ensure an adequate seal/fit according to the manufacturer's guidance. Fit testing is specific to the brand of FFP3 mask being deployed.

OCCG is currently arranging fit test training for one person in each PCN in the first instance. More details to follow but PCNs might like to nominate an individual. Practices will then need to purchase a fit testing kit to ensure that individuals have an appropriate size and brand of FFP3 - [an example can be viewed here](#)

For information

5. Changes to ENT referrals

- **Advice and guidance for ENT from Royal Berkshire Hospital**

From 1 February 2022 advice and guidance will be available for Oxfordshire GPs using eRS from the Royal Berkshire Hospital (RBH).

This is something that GPs have been requesting for some time. OUH have been unable to provide this due to resource issues, so RBH have offered to extend their current service to include all Oxfordshire GP practices.

Some practices that use RBH have been accessing this service for some time.

The use of eRS is explained in two documents ('How to use: advice and guidance for GPs' and 'Referrers: eRS A and G changes 2021) available to view on ClinOx [see here](#)

The advice and guidance name is:

7980941 BOB - Ear, Nose & Throat - A&G at Royal Berkshire Hospital – RHW

Please note:

If you want an A&G request to become a referral, please tick the box that gives permission for this to happen. This is covered in the guide above 'Referrers- eRS A and G changes 2021.'

Patients should be offered a choice of provider and if they choose to go to OUH this will be managed by RBH and communicated back to the patient's GP who does not need to take any further action unless told otherwise.

- **ENT RAS services at OUH**

From 1 February 2022 all referrals to OUH ENT will go into referral assessment services (RAS) from which all referrals will be triaged.

This will include all non 2WW urgent. 2WW's will be managed as they are currently.

Please note that from 1 February 2022, the OUH ENT Service will stop receiving new referrals sent via email. Any received after this date will mean the GP will be asked to refer using the e-Referral Service instead.

Within the e-Referral Service Directory of Service, the 2 Referral Assessment Services will appear in Search results by using the following parameters:

For the Service Name: ENT-Children's- RAS-Oxford University Hospitals-RTH

Search for:

Speciality: Children's and Adolescent Services

Referral Priorities Supported: Routine, Urgent

Age: 0-15 years

Request Type: Triage

For the Service Name: ENT-Adult- RAS-Oxford University Hospitals-RTH

Search for:

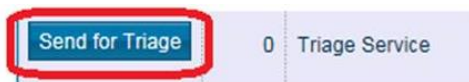
Speciality: Ear, Nose and Throat

Referral Priorities Supported: Routine, Urgent

Age: 16 years upwards

Request Type: Triage

Once the Service is located, click on Send for Triage and upload the referral documentation.



6. Primary Care Estates Strategy 2020-2025

OCCG launched its first Primary Care Estates Strategy in December 2020 [see here](#)

We have worked with colleagues from Healthwatch Oxfordshire to produce a summary which we kindly ask you to share with your PPG or put on your practice websites so patients can view the strategy [see here](#)

7. 'Return to practice' training day – Wednesday 9 March

Please see details about this face-to-face training in High Wycombe (9am-4pm) which is aimed at GPs who are considering returning to work across the BOB patch. The day includes appraisal updates and general practice 'hot topics.' For further information and to reserve your place (by Friday 11 February) [see here](#)

Forthcoming webinars

Event	Date	Link
Alcohol Brief Intervention training	23 February (9.30am – 1.30pm)	<u>see here</u>
Alcohol Brief Intervention training	24 March (9.30am – 1.30pm)	<u>see here</u>
Motivational interviewing training re personalised care	17 February and 9 March (1pm-4pm)	<u>see here</u>