

## Covid 19 Update

A number of concerns from members were raised at today's Covid 19 Management meeting.

- Pay and sickness triggers if having to isolate

Trust agreed that anyone who is off sick related to coronavirus or needs to isolate for up to 14 days, won't be affected by sickness triggers (linked to coronavirus) or suffer loss of pay (even section 2)

- What happens if you have a situation/condition that requires 12 weeks isolation following government advice?

The Trust is issuing regular guidance but is keen to ensure members won't be at detriment of current absence management procedures or loss of pay.

The Trust is in the process of contacting members who fall into this bracket to do a skills audit and risk assessment to gauge how the Trust can best utilise skills to help the service, even if you have to work from home. If you think you fall into this bracket but as yet haven't identified yourself or your situation to the Trust you should do as soon as possible, this can be done by emailing the YAS wellbeing inbox email address [yas.wellbeing@nhs.net](mailto:yas.wellbeing@nhs.net).

- Update on RPE – when to wear and stock levels

New stock has been received with more on the way, shortages should be reported to your managers, as they may have access to more kit or can organise fresh orders.

- Reports of headaches when wearing the level 3 RPE

This is being looked into as a number of reports have been received; current advice is to ensure you are properly hydrated in case you are required to wear the full level 3 RPE, as this may be part of the issue.

- Potential support if schools close or extend holiday period

The Trust accepts this may be an issue going forward and will follow government guidelines; in the meantime the Trust has an interim plan to double the number of special leave days allowed per year from 5 to 10. It is important to note that although the government said all schools would remain open for NHS staff's children, this has been shown not to be happening in all cases. This should be highlighted to your manager.

- Issue using radio when in full RPE, consider earpieces.

This point has been taken away and will be looked into through the supply chain, other possibilities and solutions will also be looked into.

- Update on who transports who-particularly for PTS

This is being looked at by PTS management with clarity on what needs to be worn and when being sent out ASAP

- Will general non-urgent business be suspended

Plans are already being drawn up to ensure all energies are put into delivering the required service.

- Are Occy health up to date with the latest advice?

Yes, occupational advice is updated daily with any changes in order to provide members with the most up to date information.

- Are we ensuring continuity of service around Occupational Health

Occupational Health is available to all members with no foreseeable change to the service at present.

- Will bank staff pay be at detriment if self-isolating?

No bank staff will not suffer pay detriment but will receive an average of their previous pay over the last 13 weeks