



The
Queen's
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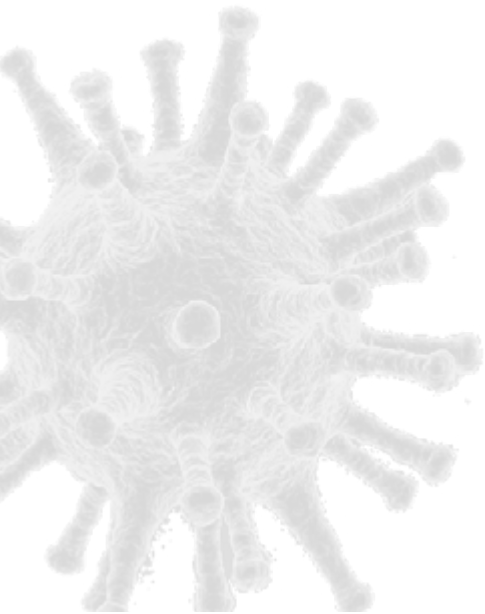
Long Covid Nurse Group Meeting

SUMMARY

'Health Inequalities'

Friday 31 March 2023

1pm - 2.30pm, via Zoom



1. Welcome and Introductions

Helen Donovan, QN, Long Covid Programme Lead, The QNI, @HelenDon_RN

- Welcome everybody to this meeting.
- The Long Covid Nurse Group (LCNG) is a community of practice for nurses in the community to improve care and increase understanding about the physical, mental and emotional effects of Long Covid.
- It was created in 2021 commissioned by NHS England and offers an online network of nursing colleagues; bimonthly meetings with expert speakers; regular newsletters; dedicated pages on the QNI website; Long Covid resources.
- Contact me at helen.donovan@qni.org.uk
- To find out more or join the network, go to: <https://qni.org.uk/nursing-in-the-community/long-covid-nurse-group/>



2. Health Inequalities

Dr Aoife Malloy, Senior Clinical Advisor in the National Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme

- The core20plus approach is design to support Integrated Care Systems to drive targeted action in healthcare inequalities improvement
- Core20 = the most deprived 20% of the national population
- Plus = ICS chosen population groups experiencing poorer-than-average health, access, experience and/or outcomes who may not be capture with the Core20 alone
- 5 = 5 key clinical areas of health inequalities: maternity; several mental illness; chronic respiratory disease; early cancer diagnosis and hypertension case-finding.



2. Health Inequalities

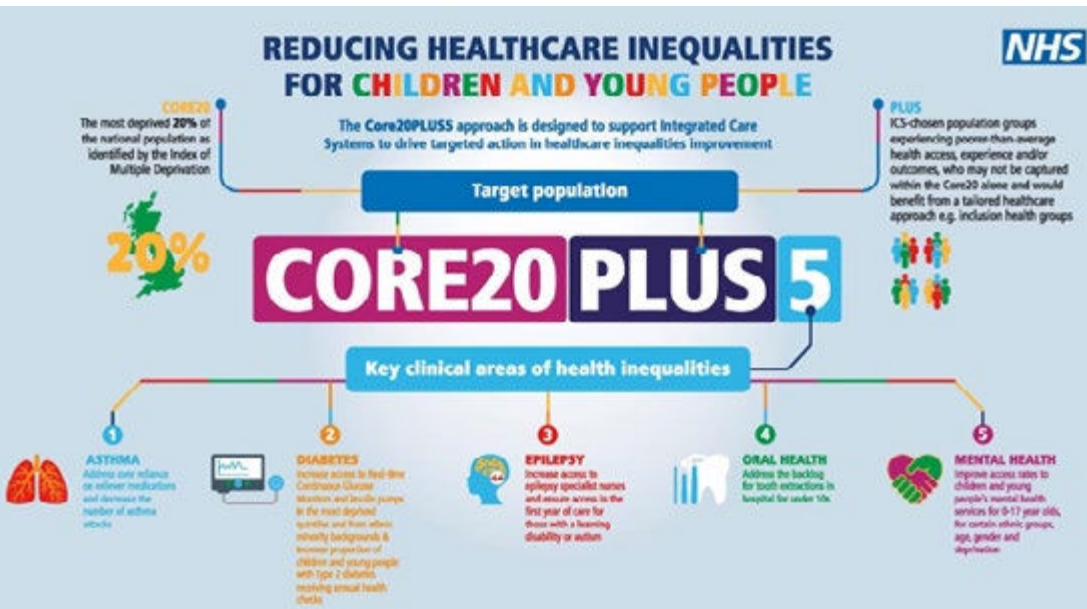
Dr Aoife Malloy, Senior Clinical Advisor in the National Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme

- There is also one for children and young people, see below - oral health is included, the highest reason for hospital admission for a child in deprived areas is dental extraction, rates are very shocking.
- Asthma and diabetes is also included and we are also looking into epilepsy and mental health in children.
- We're trying to have a comprehensive approach in tackling inequalities, for example looking at the respiratory aspect of long covid. Specifically we have looked at the impact of air pollution and were taken aback on the data: an estimated 26,000 - 38,000 deaths occur every year from poor air quality. People in low-income communities and some ethnic minority groups are more likely to be affected by air pollution. The most deprived communities in England tend to have the highest levels of air pollution.

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- Read more on the chief medical officer's annual report on air pollution here:


<https://tinyurl.com/2xrehhps>




2. Health Inequalities

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- Training resources: HEE Core20PLUS5 e-learning modules : <https://tinyurl.com/4zk6uk5k>
- RCGP Health Inequalities education modules: <https://tinyurl.com/mvue29as>
- Other: <https://elearning.rcgp.org.uk/enrol/index.php?id=499> ; <https://tinyurl.com/5ycfkdf8>
- NIHR have now set up a programme of research looking at underserved populations & communities.



ACCELERATED ACCESS COLLABORATIVE



The AHSN Network

Innovation for Healthcare Inequalities Programme (InHIP)

Programme:

- Addressing local healthcare inequalities using the **Core20PLUS5 approach** by supporting systems to improve access to innovations (medicines and health technologies).
- Projects are **designed and led by ICSs**, supported by their AHSNs. Focus on
 - **Core20PLUS population,**
 - **Alignment to one of 5 clinical areas,**
 - **A NICE-approved innovation,**
- Local communities are key to the delivery of the programme through a co-design approach.
- Leverages HII and innovation, spread and adoption expertise from HIIT, AAC and AHSNN.


Progress:

- **39 projects** from 38 ICSs allocated almost **£3.9m**

Clinical area	ICS	Funding (£k)	Key innovations include:
CVD	26	2,526	Lipid management, DOACs
Respiratory	8	797	Asthma biologics, FeNO
Cancer	2	200	Quantitative faecal immunochemical tests
Maternity	2	150	PIGF

- Projects are at varying stages of delivery but are mainly establishing teams and governance, planning community engagement and establishing data collection systems.
- The national team are supporting these activities through delivery guidance, measurement frameworks, HII educational content, and community of practice co-ordination.

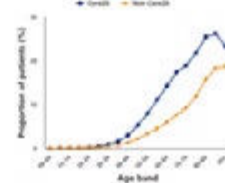
Healthcare Inequalities: Access to NHS prescribing and exemption schemes in England



NHS prescribing data metrics for Core20 and non-Core20 populations (2021/22)

Metric	Core20	Non-Core20
Prescription items per patient	33	28
Cost per patient	£262	£238
Percentage of prescriptions with charge band	31%	51%
Percentage of prescriptions with exempt	56%	69%
Percentage of prescribing other charge band	38%	26%

Core20 vs Non-Core20: Proportion of patients on 10 or more unique medicines by age band (2021/22)



Respective lines including 10% of population from where patient age and/or gender not within current Age Band.

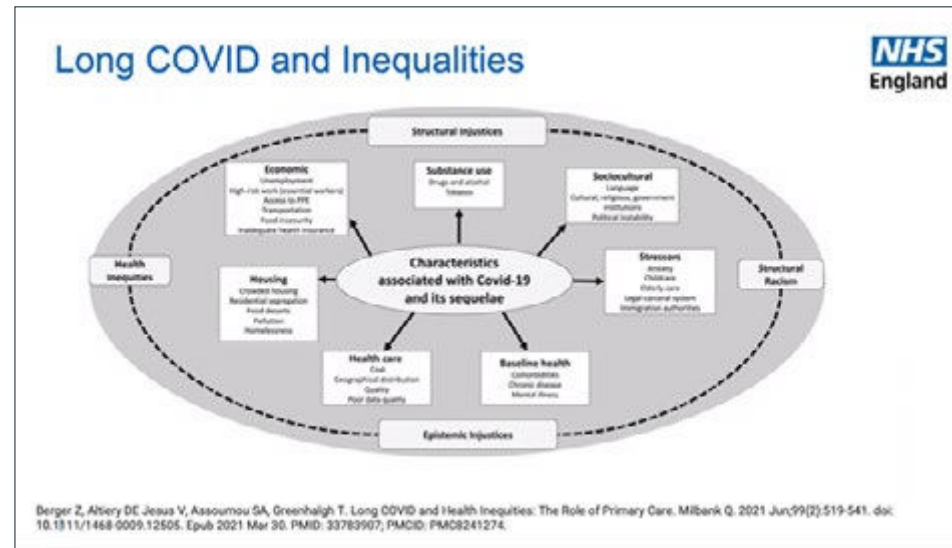
No unique medicines patients included if they received 10 or more unique medicines in at least one month during the Reporting year.

<https://nhsbsa-data-analytics.shinyapps.io/healthcare-inequalities-nhs-prescribing-and-exemption-schemes/?s=0>

2. Health Inequalities

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- NHS plans to improving Long Covid services: NHS England has invested £224 million in support for people with Long Covid, this includes setting up 90 specialist post Covid services; 14 hubs for children and young people, developing the online Your Covid Recovery platform, and investing in guidance and training for general practice to ensure GPs and their teams are equipped to support people.
- The NHS plan for improving Long Covid services published in July 2022, provides an update on progress on the 10 actions set out in the 2021-2022 plan and outlines the framework for deploying the £90 million funding committed by the NHS for Long Covid services during the 2022/2023 financial year.
- Network and Sharing Learning: Health Inequalities Futures Platform, hosts case studies and opportunities for people to showcase work they're doing in HI space:
<https://tinyurl.com/m9wysj6>



2. Health Inequalities

Hazel Nyamajiyah, NHS England

- The purpose of the Long Covid Health Inequalities workstream is to provide direction to the Long Covid programme in delivering work set in the NHS plan for improving long Covid services and the national commissioning guidance Long Covid plan. It also considers the potential impact of healthcare inequalities in the programme's work and advice on how to mitigate this impact.
- An estimated 2 million people living in private households in the UK (3.1% of population) were experiencing self-reported: deprivation, ethnicity (mixed picture, white ethnicity & ethnic minority); female gender; increasing age.
- Quite often we look at national level data but when we delve down and work with ICBs we get much richer insights, they can look at data at a more local level.
- We need champions, there's an opportunity to be gate-keepers so people don't fall off. Nurses are well positioned to feed into the agenda we must ask ourselves what is our nursing goal in looking at health inequalities and trying to improve them.

Approach to using data and research evidence in addressing health inequalities		NHS England
Programme action	How?	
Supporting regions to understand their own health inequalities and access.	This will entail the Clinical Policy Unit and Partners to provide a picture of people currently accessing Post COVID Syndrome assessment clinics alongside population and primary care level data. The aim being to support them to structure their approach to tackling health inequalities. Leverage on Health Inequalities factor in funding to encourage action.	Engage stakeholders, revisit TDR and scope the data and research available - ongoing
Targeted initiatives	Following a review of the data and understanding the specific gaps in health inequalities across the country, the Clinical Policy Unit will work with partner organisations and agree initiatives that can be piloted to see if they improve awareness, and access for specific cohorts of patients. Review regional initiatives already being undertaken.	Invite and review proposals for NHS E led targeted initiatives - Invitations have been sent out with good initial responses
Shared practice	This will involve providing regions with a menu of options for them to consider when tackling their own health inequalities. The menu of options would be based upon that carried out in other regions, supported where possible with evidence of improvement. Encourage ICBs within regions to collaborate with local governments in tackling Health Inequalities.	Start NHS E led initiatives and collate and review the approaches already taken across the country and share them



3. Long Covid Shared Consultation Guide

Dr Gillian Janes, RGN PhD MA BSc (Hons) SFHEA, Associate Clinical Fellow, Leadership and Service Improvement, Honorary Associate Professor

- I'm an adult nurse but I'm working in patient safety now. I'm part of an international cohort of scholars and I got into Long Covid when it first got recognised as a condition. No one spoke about the impact on the workforce.
- Background to the project: 2 million people in the UK were experiencing self-reported Long Covid (ONS 2023). Prevalence of Long Covid greatest in people over 35 - 69, females, people living in more deprived areas, working in social care; with another activity-limiting health condition or disability.
- There are masses of people affected by this condition and the above statistics are just the ones we know of.
- I'm noticing a change in the direction of those figures, particularly people reporting symptoms over the past 2 years which has grown.
- We've created the tool, which consists of a flow chart and a set of questions and a separate document called a self-assessment questionnaire.
- We're now in the stages of testing it in practice. Please email me at g.janes@mmu.ac.uk if you would like to participate in the feedback.



Future meeting dates:

- *25th May 2023, 12.30 – 2.00 pm*
- 18th July 2023, 2.00 – 3.30 pm
- *22nd September 2023, 10.00 – 11.30 am*
- 23rd November 2023, 1.00 – 2.30 pm

To find out more about the Long Covid Nurse Group Meeting, to join the network or book your free place on the next meeting, please go to:

<https://qni.org.uk/news-and-events/events/long-covid-nurse-group-meeting/>



Thank you to all delegates who attended today's meeting.

FEEDBACK:

Found this session extremely useful and informative I was also shocked by the information/statistics.

Interesting meeting

It's been a good session - thanks Helen

Really interesting, thank you. Definitely some food for thought.

Excellent meeting with real world information

Very useful

Very useful session

