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CYMRU
NHS
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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

Dyfodol Clinigol
Clinical Futures

Cylchlythyr Staff

Staff Newsletter



ISSUE 11 1st September 2021



Message from Judith Paget, Chief Executive

Helo pawb / hello all, welcome to this week's newsletter.

We have experienced another tough couple of weeks with the sustained pressures on our services, as well as a rise in COVID-19 cases and hospitalisations. In this context, it felt a little strange to celebrate the official opening of The Grange University Hospital on Friday. I know how much effort went into opening a new hospital in the middle of a pandemic – and I'm incredibly proud of the way all our staff are continuing to deliver services to the very best of their ability in the midst of very difficult circumstances.

For us to open the hospital ahead of schedule, and to complete this whilst in the midst of a Global Pandemic is nothing short of incredible.

While I realise it's difficult to see at the moment, we must remember that The Grange will enable us to deliver a sustainable healthcare system that is adaptable to the needs of a changing population and can provide high quality care to our patients.

Cymerwch ofal a chadwch yn ddiogel/
Please take care and stay safe.

Judith

First Minister Conducts Official Opening Ceremony at The Grange

First Minister Rt Hon Mark Drakeford led the official opening of The Grange University Hospital on Friday (27th August).

The Grange University Hospital is one of the key components of our Clinical Futures Strategy, which aims to revolutionise healthcare services in the Health Board area by providing care as close to patients' homes as possible.

The official opening of our £370 million hospital took place



before an audience of invited guests and the construction team from Laing O'Rourke, together with representatives and staff from the Health Board.

Since opening its doors in November, the Hospital has already seen 2,380 babies born, 45,654 Emergency Department attendances, 3,919 emergency operations and 56,620 scans performed.

The First Minister said: "The Grange University Hospital has already proved its value to the local community. My thanks go to everyone who worked hard to open the hospital earlier than planned. I'd also like to pay tribute to those NHS staff who work here for all their hard work during these difficult times."

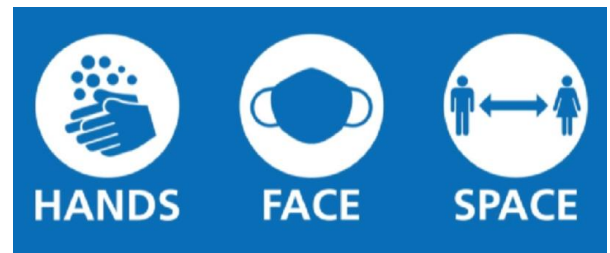
COVID Update

The COVID-19 incidence for the Health Board is continuing to increase and is at 345.9/100,000 (with 16.7% of tests coming back positive), compared to 408.6/100,000 (19.1% positive) for Wales as a whole.

Testing uptake remains low in 10-19 year olds, with the incidence rate in this age group being the highest with 672 cases per 100,000.

In light of the increasing Covid numbers in our communities, we will continue to apply the 'visiting with a purpose' policy and will continue to test visitors. Staff who car share are urged to continue to wear masks, keep windows open and sit at opposite ends of the car.

We have vaccinated 89% of the Health Board adult population with first doses and now have 85% of our over 18s fully vaccinated with two doses.



Book A Test Via Our Dedicated Staff Phone Line

All ABUHB staff are required to book their Covid-19 Tests, via the dedicated staff telephone line, as opposed to the generic public booking line. As schools start back next week, Universities start back within the next two weeks and we continue to see a significant rise in Covid-19 cases, it is imperative to use the correct staff booking line. Please ensure you tell the booking team why you are being tested. This could be because you have developed symptoms, been informed you have been in contact with a known positive case, or tested in relation to an outbreak.

To book a Covid-19 Test, call 0300 30 31 222 (see <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> for more advice). The current isolating guidelines for fully vaccinated staff are as follows:

	Household Positive Contact	Non-Household Positive Contact
Patient Facing staff	Staff must isolate	Staff can return to work following completion of a risk assessment. Must undertake PCR tests on Day 1, 5 and 8. Must undertake daily lateral flow tests. All tests must continue to be negative. Staff MUST not care for patient who are clinical extremely vulnerable
Non-Patient Facing staff	Staff can return to work Line manager MUST complete the non-Patient Facing checklist which includes a review of the environmental risk assessment Must undertake PCR tests on Day 1, 5 & 8 Must undertake daily lateral flow tests All tests must continue to be negative.	Staff can return to work Line manager MUST complete the non-Patient Facing checklist which includes a review of the environmental risk assessment Must undertake PCR tests on Day 1, 5 & 8. Must undertake daily lateral flow tests All tests must continue to be negative.

All staff must continue with infection prevention and control measures – washing hands, undertake lateral flow tests etc

Recruitment Process Changes - Welsh Language Considerations

The Health Board has now approved its new Bilingual Skills Strategy, which will shortly be coming into effect. This will mean that when recruiting new staff, departments will need to assess the Welsh language skills they currently have within their department and ensure that any position advertised from this point onwards is done in accordance with this policy.

As this is a new change, the Welsh language Unit are putting on a series of training events via Microsoft Teams over the next month. The sessions are designed for Recruitment Managers and will give an overview of the changes coming into force, as well as offering an opportunity to ask any questions.

Courses are available to book via ESR. Should you need any further information, please contact ABB.WelshLanguageUnit@wales.nhs.uk

Have Your Say on Public Services

Public services in Gwent are improving how they work together through the newly formed regional Public Services Board (PSB).

The PSB want to hear from as many people as possible, who live and work in Gwent, to understand how residents are feeling at the moment and in the future about their wellbeing. If you live in our Health Board area, please help us to understand what's good about your community and how you see it developing in the future.

Please take some time to complete the online survey:

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/vs0vtm> (the survey closes on Thursday 30th September).

Gwent PSB have new social media channels – please follow @gwentpsb on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram for more information. Tell your friends and family too!

Turn ABUHB Pink

Could you be a Pink Champion 2021 and organise your teams #Turnpink event?

Every October, people all over the world show their support for people affected by breast cancer.

After a very difficult year, Health Board staff are being urged to take part in the biggest #TurnABUHBpink has ever seen to raise money for the new Breast Care Centre at YYF. The fundraising effort is within £20,000 of the target, so we would like to expand on the previous year's success and get even more departments involved in helping us. We are aiming to get as many staff and community groups as possible to come together to wear pink and donate.



We'll make sure you have everything you need to make your day fab and full of fun. Get in touch to see how you can "Turn Pink" leading up to a main event on Friday 22nd October, which will take place across all our Health Board sites.

We will be unable again this year to have volunteers on site, so please preorder t-shirts at the special price of £5. Please contact Emma.wilkins5@wales.nhs.uk for more information.

Original Artwork Up For Grabs

In July the amazing Team ICU walked the five peaks of the GUH Critical Care Unit – Bloreng, Skirrid, Sugar Loaf, Twmbarlwm and Machen – to raise funds for their colleague and friend, Charlotte, who has recently been diagnosed with Stage 3 Hodgkin Lymphoma.

The peaks give their name to the patient pods within the department. As part of the Grange Arts Programme curated by Studio Response, local artist Clare Williams was commissioned to paint the peaks, from which the signage in the department was created. Clare's beautiful original watercolours of these five local landmarks will be auctioned as part of the ICU team's fundraising efforts. Clare said: "I wanted to paint them all as individuals and in cheerful, bright colours."



Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to own one of these special pieces of artwork, which is also part of the history of GUH! Highest bids will take home the framed paintings, which will look wonderful in any setting. For more information, please contact

Yvonne.VanBiljon@wales.nhs.uk

Engagement with Local Students

The Communications & Engagement team will be attending numerous Coleg Gwent Freshers Fayres throughout September. We will also be joined by members of staff from other teams in the Health Board.

During these events, we will be speaking to students about accessing the right healthcare service, highlighting job roles in the NHS and raising awareness of resources available to the students.

If you have any queries about the Coleg Gwent Freshers Fayres, please email

ABB.Engagement@wales.nhs.uk



Green Quality Improvement Resources

Are you interested in how you can engage in sustainable healthcare and green Quality Improvement, looking for useful resources, or perhaps just some ideas to inspire you? Please visit <https://padlet.com/abciabb/zn8n5s3cyezy49o5>

Get involved now! You can help make a real difference to reduce your services environmental impact while improving patient outcomes.

Visit <https://www.greenhealthwales.co.uk> or <https://www.susqi.org/> for more information.

If you have any ideas for this fortnightly newsletter, please send an e-mail to
ABB.CommsAndEngagement@wales.nhs.uk



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