

The Brief



Wednesday 21 October – please spread the word

Please use this sheet to communicate key messages for this month to your teams. Return your form to Siobhan Harrington, CEO, or email it to uhd.communications@nhs.net

Shared?

Single sex spaces: We have now received revised guidance from NHSE around single-sex accommodation for patients, as well as new guidance on staff facilities – this follows the updated Equality and Human Rights Commission’s (EHRC’s) Code of Practice which came into force on 5 August 2026. We know this is highly sensitive for many people and we will continue to update you as we meet our networks, review our policies and make any necessary changes.		
Accessing patient records: We have to collect information from our patients as a vital part of delivering care, but there are worrying reports nationally of NHS staff members accessing confidential patient information without any legitimate reason to do so, but with serious consequences for those who do. We have clear policies to support us all to understand our IG responsibilities.		
NHS Staff Survey: The NHS Staff Survey should reflect the experiences of everyone who works at UHD. Your anonymous survey link is waiting in your inbox. Search for ‘Picker Staff Survey’ and take part before 27 November. Everyone who completes the survey will be sent a £3 voucher for our Trust-run food outlets. Vouchers will be sent via email from Picker after you have completed your survey. Thank you to our UHD Charity for funding the vouchers.		
Don’t let flu get to you: Our teams are out and about and in clinics offering the flu vaccine. Our UHDefenders are also visiting different departments across our hospitals. Please ask your manager or team lead who your peer vaccinator is and request a visit to your department via Occupational Health on the intranet. All upcoming clinics can also be viewed by clicking the pink banner on the homepage of the intranet. Please bring your NHS number and wear clothing that allows easy access to the upper arm for vaccination. As a thank you for getting protected this winter, you will receive a free hot drink on us, with thanks to our UHD Charity.		
New UHD staff app is ready to go: The new app will improve how you access the information you need at a time and a place that suits you. You can still use it to use all your favourite links such as ESR, emails, Loop and upcoming job opportunities. However, you can now use it to talk to your colleagues directly, send them a ‘high five’ for their great work and keep up to date with the latest news and events across our hospitals. Read our FAQs on the intranet under Communications then ‘Workplace App’. If you have any questions, please contact uhd.communications@nhs.net.		

Appraisals: Have you had yours? If not, please speak to your line manager. All completed appraisals should be recorded in ESR and on your BEAT VLE.		
Better Flow, Better Care: We held our second workshop earlier this month, focusing on how we turn our flow ambition into action. Over 50 colleagues attended, exploring the five key priorities for change: Getting the front door right - Getting patients to the right place, first time - Improving flow for General and Specialty Medicine - Improving flow for our frailest patients - Making flow everybody's business. Find out more about Better Flow, Better Care on our dedicated intranet pages.		
Recent developments: - On Monday 19 October, Dermatology and Rheumatology services reconfigured across our Poole and Christchurch sites. - On Monday 5 October, the new Poole endoscopy hub welcomed their first patients. Keep up to date with upcoming changes on the Transforming Care Together pages of the intranet.		
Upcoming CQC visit: We are expecting a visit from the CQC in November to our ED, Outpatients and potentially to Medicine. Find out more about CQC visits by looking under 'C' on the intranet.		
Freedom to Speak Up: The Freedom to Speak Up Team has created some resources to help you have difficult conversations, communicate actions and protect your wellbeing. These can be found on the intranet under 'Trust values and behaviours' then 'Useful resources'. All workers including volunteers, students and those in training should complete the Speak Up eLearning on your BEAT VLE Heart. The module aims to help everyone working in health to understand what speaking up is, how to speak up and what to expect when they do speak up.		
IPC Week 19-25 October: Every member of staff, regardless of role, plays an active and vital part in our IPC Policy, and we can all do our bit to stop the spread. Look out for members of our IPC Team who will be out and about this week, visiting wards and departments with lots of useful and practical advice to support you and your team. For more information, visit the IPC intranet page.		

Staff questions and comments:

Department:

Signed:

Date:



See our
patients sooner



Be a great
place to work



Improve patient
experience,
listen and act



Save lives,
improve safety



Use every NHS
pound wisely