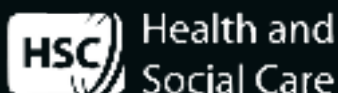


Factsheet for Northern Ireland Coronavirus (COVID-19)



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay at home this Easter and SAVE LIVES

It is vital that everyone across Northern Ireland continues to work together to stop the transmission of Covid-19 by staying at home to protect services and each other.

Staying at home, keeping your distance and **hand washing** are all ways to make a real difference.

This isn't easy, and will be particularly challenging at Easter, a time for families to come together in celebration.



For the latest information and advice on social distancing visit: www.ly/2xkKLwa



Health & Social Care Services at Easter

GP and community pharmacy will extend opening hours over Easter to help support hospital services during the expected surge. Easter opening hours and useful numbers over the holiday weekend are available at: www.bit.ly/2UXfcBS

Extra beds made available at independent hospitals

Arrangements have been made for health and social care trusts to work in partnership with independent hospitals.

Up to 112 beds will be available to treat urgent non-COVID-19 patients across a range of specialities.

Read more: www.ly/2yM9km9



PPE deliveries ramp up

A significant consignment of Personal Protection Equipment was delivered to Northern Ireland this week. The consignment is for **frontline** health and social care workers.

Read more: <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/news/minister-visits-ppe-distribution-centre-nhs-deliveries-begin>

Children's and Maternity services protected

Plans have been announced to protect children's and maternity services during the expected coronavirus surge. Hospital services will be temporarily reconfigured to release beds.

Read more: www.ly/34p2uir

Are you diabetic?

A new helpline and email support service has been launched in response to Coronavirus (Covid-19) by the Diabetes Network for NI.

Phone: 028 9536 0600

Email: diabetic.helpline@hscni.net

Read more: www.ly/2XIVAJ7

Stay at home - Wash your hands - Keep your distance

Temporary pause in routine screening programmes

A number of routine screening programmes have been stopped temporarily to allow staff to tackle COVID-19.

These include routine cervical and breast screening. However, some cancer services will still go ahead.

Read more: www.ly/3e66JUx



Hospital chaplaincy services changed during pandemic

A new resource has been developed to support people of different faiths understand how hospital chaplaincy will be delivered.

It includes information for the public, guidance for HSC staff and faith specific resources.

For info: www.ni-chaplains.online
Facebook page: Ni-Chaplains - for patients, staff and families.

Belfast hotel to be transformed into COVID-19 'step-down centre'

A Belfast hotel is being transformed into a "step-down centre" for recovering COVID-19 patients. The Ramada by Wyndham will cater for up to 150 patients discharged from hospital who still require care. The initiative is a partnership between the Belfast Trust and the private provider, Healthcare Ireland.

Guidance for people living in supported accommodation

New guidance has been issued for managing people aged 16-21 living in supported accommodation, children's homes and foster care during the pandemic.

Read more: www.ly/2Xmxxtt

Stress Control Classes

Your mental health is important.

If you're feeling anxious, suffering from panic attacks, or having problems sleeping, you can take a free online programme of stress control classes.

More: www.bit.ly/2JSVlxf



Advice at your fingertips



The COVID-19 NI mobile app is a coronavirus symptom checker and provides the latest advice for people in Northern Ireland.

You can download the free app - updated this week - from Google PlayStore and Apple AppStore.

For more advice and information

- www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus
- www.nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus
- www.hscboard.hscni.net/coronavirus
- www.gov.uk/coronavirus