

## Barnabas PPG

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From: Barnabas PPG <barnabas.ppg@gmail.com>  
Sent: 29 August 2020 17:02  
To: Barnabas PPG  
Subject: Barnabas PPG Monthly Bulletin, August  
Attachments: PPG\_Minutes\_2020\_VideoConf\_Notes.pdf;  
The\_case\_for\_change\_for\_a\_single\_CCG\_-\_August\_2020.pdf; PPG letter on single CCG 050820 signed.pdf; NAPP\_July\_2020.pdf

To All Barnabas PPG Members ...  
[Printed copies to those PPG members without email]

[If you can't read any of the attached documents, or want printed copies of anything mentioned, please contact me and I'll try to send you a copy.]

Welcome to the August bulletin for Barnabas PPG members.

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### Coronavirus

#### Coronavirus (COVID-19) update

The latest update from NW London NHS can be found online at <https://nhsnorthwestlondoncollaborationofccgs.newsweaver.com/ahpgh0vdg3/1i7jwbn9q7x8np15tihxrz>. It doesn't seem to contain anything especially new so I've not attached a copy.

#### Covid-19 NHS Survey

There's an NHS survey about healthcare during Covid-19 at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/6B39TK3>.

#### New Test for Covid-19 and Flu

There's a BBC article from early in the month about a new test which can differentiate between Covid-19 and 'flu; this could be incredibly helpful for patient triage. The article is at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53632043>. There are also reports that the UK has committed to buy millions of very quick home tests for Covid-19, and also reports of commitments to buy millions of doses of, as yet, untested vaccines. No more on these for now as I'm not at all sure they're helpful as we know too little.

#### Preparing For the Vaccine Results

For those of a more scientific bent, Derek Lowe (a very experienced drug researcher, who blogs regularly about Covid-19 from a pharmaceutical viewpoint) takes a look at what happens when we start to get real results from the current vaccine trials. Essentially he's saying we have to play the long game and not just jump on the first, half-useful looking candidate. His full blog post is at <https://blogs.sciencemag.org/pipeline/archives/2020/08/25/preparing-for-the-vaccine-results>.

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### PPG News

#### Regular PPG Video Meetings

Our regular half-hour video meetings continue, and I have now scheduled dates out to the end of the year. (If we don't need them we can always cancel them!) The dates for the rest of this year are:

- Friday 4 September, 1630-1700
- Thursday 17 September, 1030-1130 (see below)
- Wednesday 30 September, 1300-1330
- Tuesday 13 October, 1800-1830
- Monday 26 October, 1000-1030
- Friday 6 November, 1400-1430
- Thursday 19 November, 1800-1830
- Wednesday 2 December, 1300-1330
- Tuesday 15 December, 1600-1630

If you are free, please do drop in for updates and informal chat. Join the meeting at <https://join.skype.com/gnjlg1FQs7GA>.

I've also attached the latest quick notes from all our video meetings since April.

**Full Virtual PPG Meeting, 17/09, 1030-1130**

The meeting scheduled for Thursday 17 September, 1030-1130, will be a full PPG meeting. This will probably be a telephone conference (not a Skype video call). I will circulate the details, and an agenda, when I have confirmed them with our Practice Manager, Matt.

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## Local Healthcare News

### Further Opportunity to Comment on NWL CCG Merger

As you may recall there is a plan to merge the 8 CCGs in NW London into a single CCG from April 2021. The relevant two documents (a letter and a slide set) are attached. If you wish to comment you can do so by email up until 11 September.

### Ealing CCG Public Engagement

Boba Rangelov, Ealing CCG's Public & Patient Engagement Lead has now moved on to another NHS opportunity. Boba has been responsible for much of the information we received from the CCG. I would like to thank her for attending, and contributing to, our meetings on several occasions over the last few years. We wish Boba well in her next adventure. News of Boba's successor when I have it.

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## General NHS News

### Why Should We Worry about Flu this Winter?

There is a big concern that this year's flu season will coincide with a Covid-19 surge. As a consequence the NHS is working to ensure everyone eligible receives their flu vaccination. In fact it seems eligibility is likely to be wider this year, with the NHS reportedly having ordered 30 million doses of flu vaccine. There's a BBC article at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-53847025>.

### Inside the Secret World of Intensive Care

The *Guardian* recently ran an article on what it is like inside the normally hidden, and frankly scary, world of the Intensive Care Unit. With Covid-19 Intensive Care has been in the news a lot recently, but for over 50 years it has been an absolutely vital part of every hospital – not just keeping gravely ill people alive but also helping them on the way to rehabilitation. The *Guardian's* long read article is at <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/jul/30/secret-world-intensive-care-unit-hospitals-critical-care-coronavirus>.

### Nutrition Labelling on Food

The government is consulting on possible "enhancements" to the "traffic light" front-of-pack nutrition labels on food. There's full information, and a survey, at <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/front-of-pack-nutrition-labelling-in-the-uk-building-on-success>. The consultation is open until 21 October.

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## Newsletters

Finally the usual round-up of useful newsletters received.

- CQC's newsletter for July can be found at <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKCQC/bulletins/2977d7c>.
  - Ealing CCG's July newsletter is online at <https://www.ealingccg.nhs.uk/newspublications/publications.aspx?n=7450>.
  - NAPP's latest newsletter is attached.
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That's all for now, folks; more next month. Meanwhile I hope to see you at one of our September meetings.

Keith

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