

## Barnabas PPG

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From: Barnabas PPG <[barnabas.ppg@gmail.com](mailto:barnabas.ppg@gmail.com)>  
Sent: 03 August 2021 13:09  
To: Barnabas PPG  
Subject: Barnabas PPG Monthly Bulletin, August  
Attachments: Post-covid patient group flyer.jpg; PPG\_Minutes\_20210721.pdf; PPG\_Activity\_Plan\_2021-23.pdf; Local\_Facilities\_202107.pdf; biobank.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

#### Vaccination Status

As of Monday 2 August the vaccination status is:

	% having been Vaccinated with:	
	1 Dose	2 Doses
Ealing	65%	49%
London	66%	50%
England	88%	72%
UK	89%	73%

London and Ealing remain well behind the rest of the country and we need to catch up fast. If you've not had your jab(s), or know anyone who hasn't, you are encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

#### Covid Cases

The BBC is reporting that in the period 23-29 July Ealing had 306 cases per 100,000 people, compared with 265 per 100,000 in England.

While government figures show cases dropping rapidly, both ONS and Zoe only just seeing cases beginning to plateau. Prof. Christina Pagel looked at this in some detail during last Friday's (30/07) [Independent SAGE briefing](#). It seems the difference is for a number of reasons, not least because things are being measured differently. The government are reporting confirmed cases, and this is likely dropping because (a) schools are out, (b) the football has finished, (c) some are being reluctant to be tested so as not to impact their holidays, (d) 119 are still testing only those with the classic three Covid symptoms (fever, loss of taste/smell, cough) so are missing many cases, and hence (e) there's less testing being done. On the other hand ONS and Zoe are both reporting based on a more random cross-section of the population rather than being targeted, so may be picking up more accurate overall data. So the overall suspicion is that the government's data are not telling the full story – but they're telling the story the government want us to hear.

It is also becoming clearer that those in higher risk categories – *ie.* probably anyone eligible for a flu jab – is likely to need (be offered) a booster jab in the autumn. While these may be rolled out at the same time as flu jabs, boosters are likely to be given at hubs or some pharmacies (as up to now) and not GP surgeries; this is largely due to the chilled storage requirements which most GPs don't have.

[Data & information on vaccinations and cases from: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/>, <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-55274833>, <https://covid.joinzoe.com/data> and Prof. Christina Pagel, <https://twitter.com/chrischirp> & <https://twitter.com/IndependentSage>.]

#### Vaccinating Under-18s

Vaccination is now available to children between 12 and 17 who are considered especially vulnerable to Covid. But why can we not vaccinate all of this age group as some other countries are doing? Indeed why can we not vaccinate everyone over the age of (say) 1 year? BBC report at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-57885845>.

#### Long Covid Patient Group

NW London CCG have a patient group for anyone suffering with Long Covid. Details in the attached flyer.

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#### PPG News

##### PPG Meeting, 21 July Minutes

Please find attached the minutes of our formal meeting on 21 July. Please read them as they contain important information.

##### Upcoming Meetings

Our next formal meeting is on Wednesday 15 September at 0900hrs. The details for Zoom are:

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84905466669?pwd=cENHMUorM1RRMmllbzN6dE01TEFIQT09>

Meeting ID: 849 0546 6669

Passcode: 114620

Hopefully I'll have the agenda in my next bulletin.

Although they have been poorly attended recently we will continue with our 2-weekly-ish informal Zoom calls at for a while. The next dates are:

- Tuesday 3 August 1600
- Friday 20 August, 1800
- Thursday 2 September, 1000

Zoom Link (for all informal calls): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7279594414?pwd=VmYwODdoWGg2eTFvTlVjVIZyRmhSQT09>

Meeting ID: 727 959 4414.

Passcode: 149417

##### 2021-23 plans

Attached is a copy of our updated action plan for 2021-23. Although much of the activity we would like to be doing is still stopped due to Covid, we are taking the opportunity to try to refocus the group. I'm working on this refocus, starting with the group name and rebranding (see below), so watch this space.

##### Name & Branding

Following our discussions over the last couple of months, we've decided to re-christen the group **Barnabas Patient Voices**. We believe, and other PPGs have found, that "Patient Voices" means a lot more to, and is better understood by, most people than "Patient Participation". We will officially adopt the new name from 1 September – so my next bulletin will come under the new name! I have already created a new document header:



##### Local Facilities List

Our Local Facilities List has now been updated and should soon be appearing on the Practice website. Meanwhile a copy is attached.

##### Ealing Community Review Panel

Ealing Community Review Panel is a local council initiative designed to "play an independent, advisory role in Ealing's planning work, discussing issues including housing, transport, public and green spaces, and the environment" and reviewing new developments at a very early stage. I am pleased to have been appointed to the panel for it's initial one year pilot. Although

the group's activity will be largely confidential, you can be assured that I will be representing residents' views generally but also bringing some focus on primary care. There's a bit more information about the panel at

<https://ealingnewsextra.co.uk/features/have-your-say-and-join-the-boroughs-new-community-review-panel/>.

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## Practice News

### Staff Updates

As you will see from the minutes of our last meeting (above) the Practice has recruited several new staff members:

- Additional Receptionist
- Additional Phlebotomist
- Pharmacy Technician
- Additional Salaried GP

See the meeting minutes for full details.

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## Local Healthcare News

### Hillingdon Hospital

Hillingdon Hospital has been praised by CQC inspectors for turning itself around after a Covid outbreak forced its A&E to be closed to emergency ambulances and admissions for two weeks in July of last year. My London report at

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/west-london-news/hillingdon-hospital-praised-watchdog-after-21186397>.

### NW London Hospitals Collaborative Working

All the hospitals in the NW London area are increasingly working together across trust boundaries. In order to support greater collaborative working the four acute care, hospital, trusts have agreed to appoint a single chair for all four trusts. There's more background information at <https://www.imperial.nhs.uk/about-us/news/a-single-chair-for-north-west-londons-acute-trusts-to-support-more-collaborative-working>.

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## General NHS News

### UK BioBank & Data Sharing

Biobank is a large-scale biomedical database and research resource, containing in-depth genetic and health information from half a million (volunteer) UK participants which has been running for 10 years. I am one of those volunteers. One of the ways that BioBank benefits is by sharing the participants' GP medical records. They are therefore in a good position to understand the importance of sharing GP records, as is due to be implemented by the NHS from 1 September. To help explain this they are running an open session on 18 August. There's more detail in the attached email I received, and at

<https://www.ukbiobank.ac.uk/explore-your-participation/stay-involved/how-gp-data-helps-improve-human-health-participant-event>.

### Flu Vaccination

Rate of flu infection were minimal last winter, as the Covid precautions protected us against flu too. However it is clear that a combination of infection with flu and Covid is especially dangerous. To mitigate against this the NHS England is planning to offer free flu vaccines this winter to children aged two to 16, everyone aged 50 and over, and those in other "at-risk" groups. This will be the largest ever rollout of flu vaccine in the country. Much more detail in this BBC report:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-57867955>.

### NHS England Chief Executive

NHS boss Sir Simon Stevens retired at the beginning of this month. His successor is Amanda Pritchard, previously Stevens deputy. Details at <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2021/jul/28/nhs-deputy-amanda-pritchard-expected-to-replace-simon-stevens-as-head>.

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No useful newsletters have come my way, so that's all for this month.

Keep taking care and enjoy what there is of this summer!

Keith

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Keith Marshall, Chairman, Barnabas PPG

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