

## Keith Marshall

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From: Barnabas Patient Voices <[keith@barnabasvoices.org.uk](mailto:keith@barnabasvoices.org.uk)>  
Sent: 01 March 2022 08:43  
To: Barnabas Patient Voices  
Subject: Barnabas Patient Voices Monthly Update, March  
Attachments: BPV\_Minutes\_20220126.pdf; PPG\_Governing\_Document\_2022.pdf; In\_Touch\_125.pdf

To All [Barnabas Patient Voices](#) Members ...

[Printed copies to those members without email]

[A copy will also be posted on our Facebook Group]

[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 March update for [Barnabas Patient Voices](#) members.

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### Coronavirus

First of all, as always, the numbers.

I'm no longer going to report the daily number of new cases as the government data is now completely unreliable due to the lack of testing and reporting. I will continue to report data from the ONS survey and the Zoe Covid study as these are currently the most up to date and reliable sources.

#### 26/02. Vaccination Status (% of total 12+ population)

	1 Dose	2 Doses	Booster
<b>Ealing</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>43%</b>
London	70%	64%	45%
England	91%	85%	66%
UK	92%	85%	66%

Data from UK Government: <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/>

\*\* These numbers are now pretty much static \*\*

#### 23/02. Estimated Total UK Cases (millions) cf. 7 Days Earlier

<b>23/02</b>	<b>2.437m</b>	<b>↓</b>
16/02	2.651m	↔

Data from Zoe Covid Study: <https://covid.joinzoe.com/data>

#### 19/02. Estimated Positivity Rate (% testing positive) cf. 7 Days Earlier

<b>Ealing</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>1 in 19</b>	
London	4.6%	1 in 22	↔
England	3.8%	1 in 26	↓

Data from Office for National Statistics:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/articles/coronaviruscovid19latestinsights/infections>

This last table means that if you meet 19 people locally, at least one is walking around with Covid. That is still incredibly high and probably hasn't dropped much over the last couple of months.

There have been many news items recently about the government's removal of all restrictions, and you'll all have heard this already; so many news reports that I'm not going to link to any. You can find the current government guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

Remember that from 1 April there will be no free Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) (unless you're over 75, or immunocompromised). Boots are reportedly going to retail LFT in store at £2.50 each (or £12 for 5), and online for £9.50 for 4 ([Guardian report](#)) although the reports do seem to give contradictory information. Superdrug are reportedly going to undercut Boots' prices ([Yahoo! News report](#)).

#### Covid Vaccination Abroad

If you've had Covid-19 vaccinations outside the UK, the NHS will now accept these and add them to your records. Full details at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/tell-nhs-about-coronavirus-vaccinations-abroad/>.

#### A Personal View

Almost 3 weeks ago, when the news of the government lifting restrictions was first breaking, I wrote blog post outlining why I (and many others) considered this to be "reckless". Although fully referenced, it is my personal view so is rather less measured and circumspect than what I normally write here. Read it, if you dare, at <https://zenmischief.com/2022/02/more-covid-stupidity/>.

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#### Barnabas Patient Voices News

##### March Meeting

Our next full meeting is on **Wednesday 16 March, 13:30**, on Zoom.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85213102573?pwd=QU5iVmthUWJvUnJWNkIxZlIxNFIXZz09>

Meeting ID: 852 1310 2573 Passcode: 840639

The agenda is expected to be:

1. Introductions & Apologies
2. Approve Minutes of January Meeting [attached]
3. Repeat Prescriptions & Medication Reviews Q&A (Paresh Virji & Sandip Sodha)
4. Governance Review [document attached]
5. Covid-19 Update and Roundtable
6. Members Feedback/Issues
7. Group 2021-23 Plan Updates
8. Practice Updates
9. Other PPG Updates
10. Matters Arising, AOB

As you will see from the agenda, we will be joined by the Practice's Clinical Pharmacy Team: Paresh Virji and Sandip Sodha, who will be talking, and answering questions, about repeat prescriptions and medication reviews. If you have questions for Paresh and Sandip, then please let me know in advance if possible.

We are also due to agree our revised Governance Document (which is attached). This is little changed from the current version, except for the addition of paragraph H.3 about the Facebook group; all the other changes are purely cosmetic.

Please do join the meeting if you can!

##### Informal Call

By the time you read this we will have had our early March informal call, so the next one is on Monday 4 April, 16:00, on Zoom.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7279594414?pwd=VmYwODdoWGg2eTFvTlVjVlZyRmhSQT09>

Meeting ID: 727 959 4414 Passcode: 149417

It would be good to see some of you there.

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#### Practice News

##### Dr Parmar is Retiring

Our senior GP and Practice Partner, Dr Mohini Parmar, has decided it is time to retire; she leaves us at the end of March. After 30 demanding years at the Practice I think we would all agree she deserves to put her feet up and just relax. As well as being our GP, since 2012 Dr Parmar has been Chair of Ealing Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), and following the CCG merger Chair of the new NW London CCG. These are not just figurehead roles, but demanding and have legal responsibility for managing a wide range of local health and social care – as if being a GP wasn't demanding enough! We are all going to miss Dr Parmar's dedication, calm focus and friendship. She will be a very hard act to follow. We wish her a long, relaxing and very happy retirement.

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#### Local Healthcare News

##### Healthwatch Ealing Vacancies

Our local Healthwatch are looking to fill a number of committee vacancies, including a Committee Chair. Full details can be found at <https://healthwatchhealing.org.uk/get-involved/join-the-committee/>.

Joint Chair announced for North West London's four acute trusts

The NHS trusts which run our local hospital services have announced that they have appointed a Joint Chair for all four trusts. While the trusts remain independent bodies, the appointment of the Joint Chair is intended to facilitate greater partnership working and collaboration. More details at <https://healthwatchhealing.org.uk/news/joint-chair-announced-for-north-west-londons-four-acute-trusts/>.

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## General NHS & Healthcare News

### Acronym Buster

I've recently come across two very useful websites which explain many of the acronyms so beloved of the NHS (indeed all medical services):

- First from the NHS Confederation at <https://www.nhsconfed.org/publications/acronym-buster>.
  - Secondly one compiled by freelance researcher Adrian Barker: <https://www.equwell.org.uk/glossary/>.
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### Newsletters

The only newsletter received this month is *NHS In Touch*, issue 125, which is attached.

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Finally, do keep an eye on our website <http://barnabasvoices.org.uk/> or the Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/barnabas.ppg> as this is where we post the latest news and useful information.

Stay safe ...

Keith

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