

22/4/21

Dear family members and friends,

I hope you are well and enjoying slightly greater freedoms as lockdown rules are eased.

The UK vaccine roll-out has been on target thus far; and the fall in overall prevalence, the drop in transmission rates, and the consequential reduction in Covid-related deaths are all encouraging. However there are genuine concerns about emergent Covid-variants, as well as surging transmission rates in some countries. So while we are making good progress in the UK, the overall global picture remains concerning.

It goes without saying that we are encouraging everyone to take up the opportunity of having the vaccination when offered by your GP, and, as reported before, patients, sisters, and nearly all staff have now had both jabs.

Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs)

Free lateral flow are now available to every household via <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

When visiting a patient at Holy Cross we will continue to ask you to take a Lateral Flow Test on arrival before continuing with your visit. If you have your own supply of LFTs then please bring these with you and a member of staff will assist you on arrival, otherwise we can use test kits that we hold in stock here. We recommend relatives and friends to order the LFT kits through the above link, as these kits may be slightly more reliable than those we hold in stock. We would also like you to leave these kits at the Hospital to be used when you visit; all kits will be named and used only for yourself. We will keep this under review.

Dr McCluskie and Dr Pasco

On Monday 26th we say a huge thank you and farewell to Dr McCluskie our consultant in rehabilitation medicine since 2005. Although stepping down from his role at Holy Cross Hospital, Dr McCluskie will continue in neuro rehabilitation at another hospital in Surrey. We are delighted to welcome Dr Kath Pasco, who is Consultant Stroke Physician at the Royal Surrey County Hospital. Dr Pasco will be at Holy Cross on Monday afternoons. Dr James Lagan takes over from Dr Kofo Ayodeji as our main link-GP from Grayshott Surgery (although various duty doctors from Grayshott will continue to visit during the week).

Green Initiatives

It happens to be Earth Day today, so I am pleased to let you know that solar panelling is being installed on the main hospital building (during this week and next). This is additional to solar panelling already installed on the hydrotherapy pool. Disruption should be minimal. And later in the year we will install some electric car charging points on site. You may also be aware that we have been creating a wheelchair accessible platform within the trees to the east of the hospital. The project is on track for completion in early June, and although not specifically a 'green' initiative, the idea is that patients can have an immersive experience of nature, surrounded by sights, sounds and fresh woodland air. The two images attached are 'work in progress' pictures, taken this morning.

Kind regards

Ross White

CEO