Responding to the Covid-19 (coronavirus) outbreak: the dark side and the brighter

Nicholas Timmins considers the role of memory – and its absence – in the response to the Covid-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, and reflects on the tools at our disposal to overcome it.

Read it now

Covid-19 and mitigating impact on health inequalities

The Royal College of Physicians has worked with NHS Providers and the Provider Public Health Network to produce this webpage that highlights examples of how NHS providers are mitigating the impact of Covid-19 on health inequalities.

Royal College of Physicians
Coronavirus and social relationships and support for vulnerable groups: 2017–18 and 2018–19

This release considers the ways in which vulnerable groups (including older adults, those with a self-defined disability or those who are Equality Act Disabled), normally receive support from their family, friends and wider community, in order to understand how a period of isolation might impact those in need of extra support.

Report

Office for National Statistics

Age-friendly health systems design to address Covid-19

This guidance aims to help limit the exposure of older adults to Covid-19 by reducing their need to present to hospital, reducing hospitalisations and, if hospitalised or in post-acute or long-term care community, increasing the rate of safe discharges.

Guidance

Institute for Healthcare Improvement
Coronavirus: impact on young people with mental health needs

This report from Young Minds looks at the impact the Covid-19 pandemic is having on young people's mental health.

Report

Young Minds

Children of the pandemic

This report examines how the Covid-19 outbreak is affecting children – from mental health and childcare issues, to school closures, social interactions and access to food.

Report

The Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR)
Covid-19: guidance on supporting children and young people’s mental health and wellbeing

This advice is to help adults with caring responsibilities look after the mental health and wellbeing of children or young people, including those with additional needs and disabilities, during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Guidance

Public Health England

Mental health and psychosocial considerations during Covid-19 outbreak

These guidelines were developed as messages targeting different groups to support mental and psychosocial wellbeing during the Covid-19 outbreak.

Guidelines

World Health Organization
Covid-19: additional funding allocations

This guidance lists the allocations across local authorities of £1.6 billion additional funding from central government to help them respond to other coronavirus (Covid-19) pressures across all the services they deliver. This includes increasing support for the adult social care workforce and for services helping the most vulnerable, including homeless people.

---

Care Act easements: guidance for local authorities

The guidance sets out how local authorities can use the new Care Act provisions, created under the Coronavirus Act 2020, to prioritise care and support for those who need it most. The provisions are temporary and should only be used when it is not possible for local authorities to comply with their duties under the Care Act 2014.

---

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Department of Health and Social Care
Covid-19: tips for housing sector on end of life care

With the further escalation of the Covid-19 outbreak in the UK, the lives of residents are at risk, and those who are vulnerable may die of an existing long-term condition. This briefing set out a number of tips for the housing sector on end-of-life care and signposts to a selection of useful links and further practical advice.

How are British drinking habits shifting under lockdown?

Data from YouGov exploring British alcohol drinking habits over the first part of 2020 showed that of those who do drink, 75 per cent said they were drinking the same amount or more since the lockdown began. While a quarter of British drinkers reported that they have cut down on their alcohol consumption.

Mental wellbeing while staying at home
The NHS website has put together tips and advice to help keep on top of your mental wellbeing and cope with how you may feel while staying at home.

News and analysis

- **Birds, buds and bright days: how spring can make us healthier and happier** (The Guardian, 29 March 2020)
- **Monthly poll seeks to gauge mental health of UK under coronavirus** (The Guardian, 29 March 2020)
- **Rise in depression and anxiety day after UK lockdown announced – study** (The Guardian, 31 March 2020)
- **The impact of the Covid-19 crisis on homelessness** (European Public Health Alliance, 31 March 2020)
- **We need health warning labels on points of sale of fossil fuels** (BMJ Opinion, 31 March 2020)
- **Why social prescribing is the future of healthcare** (National Health Executive, 1 April 2020)
- **Coronavirus: expert panel to assess face mask use by public** (BBC News, 2 April 2020)
- **Ministers need to tell Britons that a healthy diet can boost the immune system and fend off the threat of the coronavirus, leading experts say** (The Daily Mail, 2 April 2020)
- **Homes, health, and Covid-19: how poor housing adds to the hardship of the coronavirus crisis** (Social Market Foundation, 2 April 2020)
- **Smokers at greater risk of severe respiratory disease from Covid-19** (Public Health England, 3 April 2020)
- **Video games to host Stay At Home, Save Lives message** (The Guardian, 5 April 2020)
• Boost mental health support amid coronavirus lockdown, cross-party MPs urge (The Independent, 5 April 2020)
• Emergency help for those worse affected by coronavirus (Scottish Government, 6 April 2020)
• BAME groups hit harder by Covid-19 than white people, UK study suggests (The Guardian, 7 April 2020)
• Covid-19 mental health hotline set up for NHS staff (ITV News, 8 April 2020)