

Kent Adult Social Care Provider Bulletin



Friday 26 March 2021

Domestic abuse information and resource pack provided to vaccination centres

In collaboration with Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group and Kent Community Health Foundation Trust, KIDAS (Kent's Integrated Domestic Abuse Service commissioned by KCC) has designed a resource pack for staff working in vaccinations centres on how to support patients if they mention they are experiencing domestic abuse. It gives guidance on how to use professional curiosity if a patient seems distracted, quiet or reluctant to engage during their vaccinations. The resources include a briefing on domestic abuse, an instruction flow chart, and a variety of information materials to display.

See the content below from the resource pack that represents a number of initiatives supported by KIDAS and its partners to reach out to people experiencing domestic abuse when they are visiting community and clinical settings:

Domestic abuse resource pack



In response to the COVID pandemic, lockdown restrictions have limited opportunities for victims of domestic abuse to seek help. The latest government messaging made clear that the 'stay at home' rule does not apply to victims of domestic abuse.

Services who usually refer victims (e.g. schools, social workers, GPs) are not delivering face to face support or spotting early warning signs of abuse. Vaccination and test sites, however, are seeing thousands of patients every day.

Vaccination and testing centres are places where a person experiencing domestic abuse may ask for help. During appointments, the patient is generally alone with the vaccinator or test support staff providing an **opportunity** to ask for help.

How you respond could be a lifeline to that person.

It is important that all staff and volunteers within centres use '**professional curiosity**' and ask if things are ok if:

- Someone seems distracted, quiet, reluctant to engage
- Provides confusing responses (as if the person is trying to alert you to something)

If you get a disclosure of abuse or you feel a patient is trying to disclose, a simple way of responding is to ask, "**is someone making you feel unsafe?**"

This pack will provide you with resources to help you to feel confident to respond to a disclosure of domestic abuse and information to share with patients to enable them to seek support from a specialist agency.

In an attempt to try and help as many victims as possible at the moment, that are potentially stuck in lockdown with a perpetrator, the government have come up with a new 'code word' scheme called 'Ask for ANI'

Pharmacies, including Boots have signed up to support this scheme nationwide. It means that a victim can approach a member of staff in the participating venue and ask for 'ANI' to indicate they **need help** in a **discreet** way.

Please be aware of this in case a patient asks for 'ANI' during their appointment.

Included:

Item	Instruction	Link / embedded document
Links to short training videos on DA Awareness and handling disclosure	Please watch	<p>Domestic abuse awareness (23 min) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaJTogQ_YxU</p> <p>Managing a disclosure (4 min) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBENHoxzREM</p> <p>Safe enquiry and support (23 min) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-UroriulxzI</p> <p>Domestic abuse - it's more than physical abuse (6 min) https://www.facebook.com/kentpolice/videos/domestic-abuse-its-more-than-physical-abuse/784224112356634/</p>
Ask for ANI code word scheme	For more information on this scheme	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/939618/Understanding_domestic_abuse_for_the_Ask_for_ANI_codeword_scheme.pdf

Stephen Lawrence day

A legacy for change.

Thursday 22 April 2021
1pm – 2pm

On what will be the 28th anniversary of the murder of Stephen Lawrence in a racially motivated attack whilst waiting for a bus in Eltham, this event will explore the lasting legacy of his death. Marking Stephen Lawrence day is even more important at a time where we are still in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic which has had a disproportionate impact on BAME communities, and the ongoing impact of Black Lives Matter.

There are a range of speakers from the community, cultural, policing and charity sectors.

(Programme) Guest speakers include:

- Michelle Bramble – Chair, North Kent Caribbean Network
- Gurvinder Sandher – Artistic Director, Cohesion Plus
- Sunder Katwala – Director, British Future
- Tim Smith – Deputy Chief Constable, Kent Police
- Errole Francis – Artist Director, Culture
- Matthew Dunkley CBE – Corporate Director, Kent County Council

To learn more and register, please follow this link:
<https://www.cohesionplus.com/stephen-lawrence-day/>

Shielding update for people who are clinically extremely vulnerable

The Department of Health and Social Care have announced that [clinically extremely vulnerable people in England will no longer need to shield from 1 April 2021](#).

This means that those on the shielded patient list can begin to follow the national restrictions alongside the rest of the population. However, these people are still advised to take extra precautions to keep themselves safe from COVID-19.

From 18 March and over the next two weeks, people on the shielded patient list will receive an advice letter that sets out practical steps on how to reduce their risk of catching the virus.

These include:

- continuing to maintain strict social distancing
- keeping overall social contacts at low levels
- continuing to work from home where possible.

Click the image below to read the latest guidance in full.



Residents on the Shielded Patient List

Being on the SPL does not prevent a care home resident from receiving visitors in the same way as other residents.

As long as visiting is delivered in line with the arrangements set out in this guidance (including robust testing arrangements, PPE use and in the context of good IPC throughout the care home environment), this will provide an appropriate level of risk mitigation and management for people on the SPL list.

As discussed above, individualised risk assessments should be completed for residents where necessary, including in respect of specific vulnerabilities set out in the resident's care plan. This may mean that some individuals should sensibly take a different approach to visiting – but this would be on the basis of individual clinical advice. Being on the SPL does not in itself necessitate an individualised risk assessment.'

More information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visiting-care-homes-during-coronavirus/update-on-policies-for-visiting-arrangements-in-care-homes>

Staff wellbeing

Please see below resources provided by KMPT.

There are two self-help videos below and self-help material. The Mental health wellbeing hub is not yet ready for self-referrals although KMPT hope this will be up and running by the end of April.

The first video is for staff to enhance their well-being during COVID:

<https://youtu.be/Zxm2QrOpNrs>

The second video is a briefing for managers and team leaders on how to support staff:

<https://youtu.be/y1JG3q7Synw>

KiCA: free membership for all CQC registered Adult Social Care providers in Kent

Following recent funding received from Kent County Council, KiCA are able to offer free membership to ALL CQC registered Adult Social Care providers in Kent until July 2021.



They represent all areas of the sector, residential homecare, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health. KiCA are your voice for care in Kent.

Do not miss this opportunity to join your local Care Association. For further information, please visit: www.kica.care or contact: louise.faulkner@kica.care

KiCA look forward to continuing to support you and your organisation through these difficult and challenging times.