

OPEN LETTER from London's specialist homelessness clinicians and partners

To: Sir David Sloman, NHS England London Region,
Professor Paul Plant, London Regional Director, Public Health England,
Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London

18th March 2020

RE: Covid 19 response for vulnerable homeless patients

We represent a wide range of clinicians across London directly involved in the care of homeless patients in primary care, community and hospital nursing, acute medicine, infectious diseases, palliative care, addictions psychiatry and Public Health. In liaison with the Faculty for Homeless and Inclusion Health, UCL Department of Epidemiology and Find and Treat we are convinced of the need to enact the "Test-Triage-Cohort-Care" homeless sector plan as described in the accompanying document.

Primary care and community based health services for homeless people are ready to be re-deployed to support Local Authorities and the voluntary sector, clinical volunteers are also coming forward and the voluntary sector partners are ready to train and mobilise non-clinical volunteers to support the work.

We ask that you support us and our colleagues to ensure that care for homeless and excluded people across London is delivered equitably and to the highest possible clinical standards during the Covid 19 epidemic.

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UCL Professor of Epidemiology and Inclusion Health

Dr Al Story
Clinical Lead Find and Treat

Dr Nigel Hewett
Secretary to the Faculty for Homeless and Inclusion Health
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Dr Katherine Henderson
President of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine

Sam Dorney-Smith
Secretary to the London Network of Nurses and Midwives Homelessness Group,
Homeless Health Lead, Queen's Nursing Institute & Pathway Nursing Fellow

Dr Caroline Shulman
Pathway Fellow in Palliative Care and Homelessness

Dr Mike Brown
Consultant in Infectious Diseases UCLH

Dr Jenny Drife
Consultant Psychiatrist START team (community mental health team for rough sleepers) & Addictions specialist

Dr Pippa Medcalf
Royal College of Physicians Lead for Health Inequalities

Alex Bax,
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For more information, to indicate your support, to volunteer, or offer other help, please email:

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