

Our Ref: ID 1687

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group
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Re: Freedom of Information Request (FOI) - Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) staff risk assessment

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received into this office on 26th May 2020.

You Asked for:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

On the 29th April, the Chief Executive and the Chief Operating Officer of NHS England, 'Sir Simon Steven and Amanda Pritchard wrote in a letter addressing the second phase of the NHS response to COVID19; a recommendation to 'risk-assess staff at potentially greater risk and make appropriate arrangements accordingly'.

I would therefore like to make a FOI about the Clinical Commissioning Group's (CCG's) action in this regard, **to date**. This is to help assess the differences and or similarities in CCG's practices and to help inform best practices in primary care nationwide.

Please provide communications addressing:

1. Recommendations made to your local primary care providers.
2. Recommendations received from primary care providers or
3. Any monitoring process that is currently in place concerning this risk assessments/ appropriate arrangements.

Our Response:

1. Communications have been issued to GP practices in two specific areas. The first was providing details of the national webinar, to discuss ethnicity, COVID-19 and primary care held on 6th May 2020. This webinar was for primary care colleagues to learn about the impact of COVID-19 on Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities and share practice tips and ways to support staff. The second shared the guidance, produced by NHS Employers, on how to carry out risk assessments particularly for vulnerable groups, to understand the specific risks staff members face from exposure to COVID-19 and actions which employers can take to keep staff safe. A link has been provided below for further information:

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/covid19/health-safety-and-wellbeing/risk-assessments-for-staff>

2. NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) received no recommendations from providers.
3. As GP Practices are employers in their own right, NHS Wirral CCG has not been requested to monitor GP practices around individual staff risk assessments. May I suggest that you approach each GP directly? Please see below for a link containing the details for all Wirral based GP practices:
<https://www.wirralccg.nhs.uk/about-us/our-gp-practices/>

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

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