

COVID-19 Changes to chronic pain service June 2020 – Patients on waiting list under 16y

Due to the situation surrounding the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and subsequent national guidance published by NHS England and NHS Improvement on 17th March 2020, it was deemed necessary to cancel hospital appointments. At that time we took the decision to suspend our service. We are now making strides to restart the chronic pain service making use of virtual platforms, but this may be in a more limited manner than what we were previously able to offer.

The chronic pain service is delivered by a team of different professionals all involved in the management of chronic and complex pain. Our team includes physiotherapists, psychologists and pain nurses. We will be unable to offer in person clinic appointments with the team due to social distancing requirements, and our ability to deliver physiotherapy, psychology and other pain management techniques may be different, limited or interrupted during this time.

We are working towards providing clinic appointments in a virtual manner. The hospital uses the Attend Anywhere virtual/online clinic appointment system and you will be contacted nearer the time with specific details of how to access this and your appointment time. If you are unable to be available at the specified time for the appointment it is essential you contact our secretary in order for us to reallocate that appointment to someone else and reschedule your appointment. Failure to do this may result in your child being removed from the waiting list.

You may have been informed at the time your doctor referred your child/young person to our service that there was a waiting list. The suspension to our service due to the pandemic and the changes we are having to make within the service will likely result in further delays on the waiting list. Any missed appointments will add further delays to the waiting list so we kindly ask for your co-operation to inform us in advance of any appointments you are unable to attend.

If your child no longer needs the input from the chronic pain service, please contact our secretary to inform us and we will remove them from the waiting list.