

North Yorkshire CCG

Patient Partner Network Meetings

March 2021

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Background

- 1st wave of CV-19 March – July with a peak in hospital bed occupancy in April
- Routine services closed to protect acute hospital capacity – both general and ICU
- Patients accessing services for urgent and emergency care and urgent/2ww referral pathways only
- Re-opening of routine referrals from June
- Planning for recovery and restoration in place with expectation of returning to pre-covid activity levels through autumn and winter
 - 2nd wave Sep – Dec with a peak in November
 - 3rd wave Dec – Feb with a peak in January exceeding waves 1 and 2

Challenges and Impact

- Number of patients waiting remain broadly the same however patients are waiting longer for their treatment due to:
 - Initial impact of service closure during wave 1 and subsequent impact of waves 2 and 3
 - Reduced capacity due to infection prevention and control measures i.e. enhanced cleaning regimes, social distancing, designation of hot and cold areas
 - Redeployment of staff to respond to clinical need, staff absence
 - Referrals returning to pre-covid levels against a backdrop of reduced capacity
 - Winter pressures; flu, norovirus, respiratory conditions etc.
 - Patient choice

Actions being taken

- Clinical prioritisation of waiting lists within a nationally endorsed framework ensuring urgent treatments go ahead i.e. cancer surgery
- Communications with patients and GPs
- Acute trusts working collaboratively to provide mutual aid where safe and sensible to do so – full oversight of waiting lists across the local geography being developed
- National arrangements for additional capacity from the Independent Sector
- Development of support for patients whilst they wait