



2 June 2020

Chief Executives Health Boards & NHS
Trusts

Copied to:
Medical Directors
Nurse Directors
Directors of Therapies and Health Science
Chief Operating Officers

Dear colleagues

COVID-19: NHS Principles Framework for Hospitals

The NHS in Wales is moving towards a new phase in the response to the pandemic. In addition to providing a high standard of care to patients with Covid-19 and maintaining essential services, there is a need to provide a variety of other routine services, including planned surgery and routine diagnostic procedures.

Infection prevention and control will be a hugely important component of this next phase where the avoidance of nosocomial transmission of Covid-19 will be key.

To support this, the Nosocomial Transmissions Group (NTG) has been established, jointly chaired by the Deputy Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Nursing Officer. The purpose of the group is to advise, support and provide direction on the actions needed to minimise nosocomial transmission and enable the safe resumption of services.

Attached is one of the first documents to be issued from the NTG, 'COVID-19: NHS Principles Framework for Hospitals'. It is important that all NHS organisations follow this guidance as we must do all we can to minimise nosocomial transmission of COVID-19.

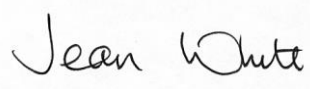
Whilst this guidance focuses on hospital settings, many of the principles will be relevant to other healthcare settings and connecting services, including ambulance, primary and community care. There is an expectation that health boards will consider this framework across all their services.

Thank you to you and your teams for the work you are doing to restore services and maintain essential services in these challenging circumstances.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Atherton', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr Frank Atherton
Chief Medical Officer
Medical Director NHS Wales

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jean White'.

Professor Jean White CBE
Chief Nursing Officer
Nurse Director NHS Wales