

**Involvement &  
Engagement  
Emergency planning  
and Business  
Continuity**

# 1. Response plans activation

- Heatwave plan 2022

- Action card B9 of the EPRR response manual
- Reviewed by
  - Helen Bosley, infection prevention and control
  - Pete McGrane, clinical director
  - Chris Eades, Estates and facilities
- Key change to exemption regarding the use of mobile air conditioning units at level 2: previously only applied in community hospitals now extended to all services provided the following condition is met:

*If the situation arises that the risk to the patient is deemed to be greater due to the heat, than the risk associated with Covid-19, clinical staff should consult with the clinical director to discuss the possible use of a mobile air conditioning unit following a robust risk assessment of the patient and the environment.*

- Service business continuity plans

- Ongoing across service directorate and corporate services
- Key focus re: section 3 loss of staff and/or insufficient staff to meet patient demand

**PATIENTS AREAS COVID-19**

Due to the very real risk that patients and staff may become unwell due to heat on the wards, the following actions may be taken when a level 2 heatwave action heat-health watch alert is issued. When the heat-health watch alert level is reduced to level 1, staff members are expected to revert to existing Trust infection prevention and control guidance.

A full risk assessment of the patient and the environment will need to be completed PRIOR to implementing this guidance in relation to mobile air conditioning units and fans for patients.

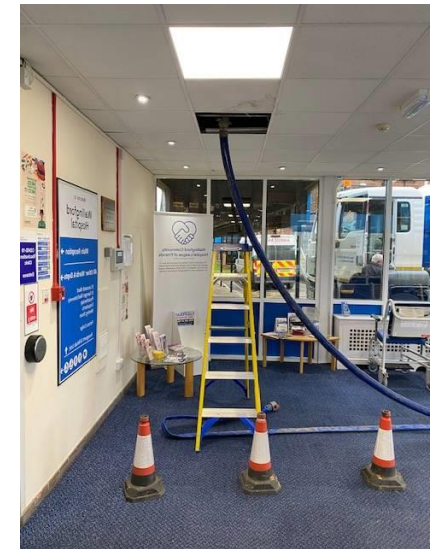
Action		Complete
1	<p>Guidance on access to drinking water within the clinical area may be amended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Staff should be allowed access to drinking water at the nursing station. However, please ensure that all bottles are identifiable to an individual and not liable to be used by another staff member.</li> <li>○ Staff may still fill personalised water bottles from ward/staff kitchens or the chilled water supplies, taking care to ensure that the tap is not touched by the bottle.</li> </ul>	
2	The normal standards in relation to use of PPE still apply and must be adhered to.	
3	<del>Community hospitals:</del> If the situation arises that the risk to the patient is deemed to be greater due to the heat, than the risk associated with Covid-19, clinical staff should consult with the clinical director to discuss the possible use of a mobile air conditioning unit following a robust risk assessment of the patient and the environment.	
4	Staff should consider wearing loose fitting cotton clothing (ideally scrubs) and do not have to wear hosiery.	
5	Provide wards with ice lollies for patients and staff.	
6	Any instances of staff or patients becoming unwell due to heat should be reported as an incident in the normal way.	

**ESTATES AND FACILITIES**

Action	Task	Complete
1	Any service requests for the deployment of mobile air conditioning units must be authorised by the clinical director (or deputy) of the service requesting deployment. Check authorisation before deploying unit to service. <del>Contact clinical director – Oxfordshire Community Service (or deputy) and determine if the clinical director wishes to authorise the deployment of additional mobile air conditioning units to community hospitals.</del>	

## 2. Recent Live events – testing controls/plans

- Fuel disruption September 2021
  - Service business continuity plans
  - EPRR response manual Action card B4 critical services and prioritisation and A4 formal Incident Coordination Centre
- Wallingford community hospital water outage October 2021
  - Service business continuity plan and also tested agreement with Thames Water re: sensitive customer
- Storm Eunice February 2022
  - Service business continuity plans
- Hospital evacuation Campbell Centre April 2022
  - Agreement with CNWL re: patient shelter sites
- Covid-19
  - Ongoing – reduced to level 3 incident i.e. regional coordination



# 3. Training and exercising

- Communications exercise – exercise Talk Talk Thames Valley
- Table top exercises
  - Oxfordshire Community Services - June 2022
    - key outcome: formalise training for on call managers as part of their induction prior to joining the rota
  - Psychosocial response group - June 2022
    - minor amendments required to Action card B23 psychosocial response
- Training
  - Oxfordshire mental health head on call – May 2022
  - Buckinghamshire mental health head on call – May 2022

# 4. Guidance

## NHS EPR from 1 July 2022

### Integrated care boards

- Will be considered a category one responder under the CCA 2004. CCGs were listed as category two responders.
- Lead EPRR locally – Local Health Resilience Partnership
- Will represent the NHS at local resilience forums
- Are required to appoint a board level accountable emergency officer

### NHS England

- Remains a Category 1 responder under the CCA 2004
- Will support ICBs to deliver EPRR
- Lead organisation for NHS resilience policy including EPRR assurance
- NHS England provides strategic leadership to the NHS during a Level 3 and 4 incident