

Stakeholder update

Industrial Action - Royal College of Nursing (RCN) – 8.00pm Sunday 30 April – 12 midnight Monday 1 May

The Royal College of Nursing has announced strike action with no derogations from 8pm 30 April to 12 midnight on 1 May 2023. The RCN has confirmed that this strike will involve nursing staff working in emergency departments, intensive care units, cancer care and other services that were previously exempt.

As a result of the industrial action, a number of RCN members that work at Wirral Community Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust (WCHC) will be on strike on these days. The Trust respects the right of trade union members to take part in planned industrial action. NHS pay is a matter for the Government and trade unions. Although we have tried and tested plans in place to mitigate risks to patient safety and manage any disruption including industrial action, there will be disruptions to a number of our services.

Preparations

We have been working closely with our RCN colleagues to minimise the impact on services users and patients and ensure patient safety.

Patients whose appointments are impacted have already been advised and are being supported with rearranging their appointments.

Expected impact during the industrial action

Urgent Care

- **Walk-in Centres**
- **Minor Injuries**

The current position is that there will be no Walk-in Services or Minor Injuries provision at Victoria Central Health Centre and Eastham Clinic. We are monitoring this and there may be further updates.

Patients requiring urgent care will be signposted to alternative services including, pharmacy, GP, NHS111, Minor Injury and Illness Service at Miriam Medical Centre, and the Urgent Treatment Centre at Arrowe Park.

- **Urgent Treatment Centre & GP Out Of Hours (GPOOH)**

The Urgent Treatment Centre at Arrowe Park will be operational from 8.00am – 10:00pm. GPOOH will be operational as normal.

Two Hour Urgent Community Response (UCR)

The service will continue to provide a two hour urgent community response service. Referrals can be made in the usual way. More details available on our [website](#).

Community Nursing

Nursing teams have been in contact with all patients and their carers to ensure that their needs are met and identified those who require ongoing care during this time.

The service can be contacted in the usual way
<https://www.wchc.nhs.uk/services/community-nursing/>

Please see the table below for changes to service provision during the industrial action:

Community Nursing	
What we will provide	What we are not able to provide
Administration of medications via syringe drivers	Routine referrals from GP Out of Hours, care agencies or hospitals
Administration of insulins	Dressing changes
Daily injectables	Pressure area care / management
Blocked catheters	Non-critical medication administration
Palliative care for patients requiring management of symptoms or pain relief	Personal care
Administration of IV treatment	Equipment checks
Visits for patients with complex needs including the management of severely complex wounds	
Apomorphine treatment	
Regular bowel care management	
PEG feed medication	

Community Nursing Nights service

The Community Nursing Nights service will also be affected from 8.00pm on the 30 April. However they will continue to prioritise visits based on clinical need.

Community Intermediate Care Centre (CICC)

The centre will remain operational during the two days of action. Safe staffing levels will be maintained.

During the days of action

To help ensure the safety of our service users and the patients, senior leaders will be based in a command centre to review the current position and react and respond accordingly.

Please visit our Stakeholder page on our [website](#) for further updates.