Message

From: John Edmunds Irrelevant & Sensitive
Sent: 12/03/2020 22:29:14
To: Ferguson, Neil M Irrelevant & Sensitive; Jeremy Farrar Irrelevant & Sensitive
Subject: Re: UKG and COVID

That potential surge capacity is absolute bollocks. The level of demand at the peak, even with the mitigations planned, are an order of magnitude higher than the NHS can cope with.

John

From: Neil Ferguson Irrelevant & Sensitive
Date: Thursday, 12 March 2020 at 22:26
To: John Edmunds Irrelevant & Sensitive, Jeremy Farrar Irrelevant & Sensitive
Subject: RE: UKG and COVID

The attached is worrying, given we know that the actual surge capacity of the NHS is much lower.

From: John Edmunds Irrelevant & Sensitive
Sent: 12 March 2020 22:23
To: Jeremy Farrar Irrelevant & Sensitive; Ferguson, Neil M Irrelevant & Sensitive
Subject: Re: UKG and COVID

1) The data are crap and hopelessly out of date, so we have little situational awareness. The daily figures are a joke and the guestimate of 5-10,000 cases is probably too low.
2) The measures just announced will do very little. Not quite sure just how many cases will escape, but I suspect a fair few.
3) We will have to do a lot more to manage this epidemic. The current plans will overwhelm the NHS almost straight away. We need much more stringent control measures if we want to slow it down. Not necessarily now, but soon. Very soon.
4) There is an obsession with not getting an autumn/ winter epidemic later this year. This seems to be the tail wagging the dog. We are going to get a massive epidemic in the summer with hundreds of thousands of deaths, so that we don't coincide with the piddling little flu epidemic in the winter, which we can vaccinate against anyway. If you want to properly lower the peak, then it will have to be spread out for a long time.

From: Jeremy Farrar Irrelevant & Sensitive
Date: Thursday, 12 March 2020 at 22:10
To: John Edmunds Irrelevant & Sensitive, Neil Ferguson Irrelevant & Sensitive
Subject: Re: UKG and COVID

Main concerns?

From: "john.edmunds Irrelevant & Sensitive
Date: Thursday, 12 March 2020 at 21:25
To: Jeremy Farrar Irrelevant & Sensitive, Neil Ferguson OBE FMedSci Irrelevant & Sensitive
Subject: Re: UKG and COVID

NO I AM NOT.

From: Jeremy Farrar <Irrelevant & Sensitive>
Date: Thursday, 12 March 2020 at 21:05
To: John Edmunds <Irrelevant & Sensitive>, Neil Ferguson <Irrelevant & Sensitive>
Subject: UKG and COVID

Are you both comfortable with the plans UKG have not in place, the pace of actions and the changes they are making?

Good if we could talk again before SAGE.

Jeremy

Wellcome exists to improve health by helping great ideas to thrive. We support researchers, we take on big health challenges, we campaign for better science, and we help everyone get involved with science and health research. We are a politically and financially independent foundation.

The Wellcome Trust is a charity registered in England and Wales, no. 210183. Its sole trustee is The Wellcome Trust Limited, a company registered in England and Wales, no. 2711000 (whose registered office is at 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE, UK)