

NHS Digital coronavirus programme update

13 October, 2020









Information and technology
for better health and care

NHS Digital coronavirus programme update – 13 October, 2020

Overview of active initiatives in NHS Digital's COVID-19 response



COVID-19 strategic focus areas

-  Provide digital channels for citizen guidance and triage (p.4-5)
-  Enable remote and collaborative care with systems and data (p.6)
-  Deliver digital services for NHS Test and Trace (p.7-8)
-  Provide support for delivery of Vaccinations (9-10)
-  Identify and protect vulnerable citizens (p.11)
-  Support planning with data, analysis and dashboards (p.12)
-  Get data and insights to research communities & support clinical trials (p.13)
-  Provide secure infrastructure and support additional capacity (p.14)
-  Plan for recovery, restarting services and new needs

Initiatives NHS Digital is delivering

☒ Significant milestone reported in this update

☐ Work ongoing

111 First (EDDI): booking appointments from 111 telephony / online into EDs	111 First (ED Streaming): enabling efficient management of patients in EDs	NHS Pathways: new "Injuries Light" module creating capacity for 111	111 Online: enhancements to enable booking to EDs via EDDI	NHS App: over 1m users now accessing personalised health services via NHS App	NHS.UK: up-to-date health information and various digital services for citizens
COVID Care at Home: monitoring high risk patients in their homes	"Bring Your own Device" for Primary Care: enabling GPs to work remotely	iPads for Social Care: secure access to patient data for direct care	Electronic Prescription Service (EPS): electronic by default (Phase 4)	Summary Care Record: new data fields to record Vaccination status	
Digital platform for Pillar 2 Testing: out-of-hospital testing for the wider population	Trace: digital infrastructure for contact tracing	Contain: public and private access to COVID-19 dashboards	Cyber Defence Operations Centre: security services for Test, Trace & Contain	Service Operations: ensuring performant operation of Pillar 2 testing infrastructure	
Data and analytical support for NHSE flu vaccination programme	National Booking capability for COVID-19 vaccination	Permission to Contact: collecting data for recruitment into clinical trials	National Surveillance System for Pharmacovigilance		
Risk Stratification: platform to support more granular COVID-19 risk profiles	Shielded Patient List (SPL): developed & maintaining list of vulnerable patients	Self-Isolation Notes: digital service to self-certify for COVID-19 if evidence required			
Cancer: linking data and performing analysis to support planning & research	Secondary Care Medicines Data: developing new data collection	Situation Reports: collecting data for NHSE on COVID-19 patients/staff impacts	Social Care Data Collection from Care Management Systems	ICU Capacity Planning Tool: predictive models for beds & ventilators	
Trusted Research Environment for England (nominated by SAGE)	Central Disseminator of GP Data for research and planning	NICOR: analysis for cardiovascular status / outcomes and COVID-19	RECOVERY Trial: Hospital and testing data for evaluating treatments	PRINCIPLE Trial: primary outcome data for trial focused on older people	
Connectivity: network upgrades and extensions within NHS and social care	Authentication: development of additional virtual smartcard solutions	NHS Mail for health and social care: rollout to social care and other new users	Nightingale Hospitals: connectivity, technical / cyber	Other infrastructure and cyber support: e.g. Laptops, cyber plans	
"Healthcare debt" analysing activity, referrals & outcomes					

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Overview of completed initiatives in NHS Digital's COVID-19 response



COVID-19 strategic focus areas

Initiatives NHS Digital has delivered

Work complete



Provide digital channels for citizen guidance and triage (p.4-5)

NHS Login: secure identity verification for access to App and other NHS services

Self-Isolation Notes: digital service to self-certify for COVID-19 if evidence required



Enable remote and collaborative care with systems and data (p.6)

Video-consultations for Primary Care: assurance and rollout to >90% of practices

Video Consultations for Outpatients: rollout/implementation support to NHSE

GP Connect: information sharing across primary and urgent care

Microsoft Teams Deployment: deployment to 1.2m NHS Mail users



Deliver digital services for NHS Test and Trace (p.7-8)

Service Design: targeted reviews to ensure coherence across Test & Trace



Provide support for delivery of Vaccinations (9-10)



Identify and protect vulnerable citizens (p.11)

SPL Open Data: providing open data / visualisation of aggregated data

SPL Data for Public Health: private dashboards to facilitate planning

Vulnerable children: support safeguarding by sharing data with nurses, health visitors

Mental Health Survey: impact of COVID-19 on children and young people



Support planning with data, analysis and dashboards (p.12)

Ethnicity Outcomes Analysis: analysis to investigate high BAME fatalities

Diabetic risk factors: linking data from national audit to support analysis

REACT1: data for community prevalence testing (antigen testing)

HOSTED: monitoring of anonymised household transmission by PHE

111 Open Data: published open data / visualisation for COVID-19 triages

e-Referral Dashboard: open data showing referral trends during COVID

Data Access Environment for PHE: accelerating epidemiology



Get data and insights to research communities & support clinical trials (p.13)

Plasma Trial: identification of eligible (recovered COVID-19) patients



Provide secure infrastructure and support additional capacity (p.14)

Returning Staff: advice and technical support for onboarding

Your NHS Needs You: survey for recruitment of returning clinicians



Plan for recovery, restarting services and new needs



Provide Digital Channels for Citizen Guidance & Triage (1)

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Providing digital channels for citizens to access information and guidance, self-manage and be routed to the most appropriate care, minimising contact and reducing the burden on clinical staff

Initiative	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
111 First	Emergency Department Digital Integration (EDDI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Digital has been commissioned to develop a tactical web service (“EDDI”) which will enable 111 Online and 111 Telephony services to book people into emergency departments (EDs) where appropriate, and to provide EDs with a view of expected patient flow. This will help reduce crowding of waiting rooms during COVID-19 EDDI Release 1, intended to go live in November, will provide a rudimentary capability for booking into timeslots. NHS England are working to provide insight into aspects of the service design, including protocols for managing capacity dynamically, revising slot allocations dynamically, dealing with capacity overflows and recording no-shows. Given tight timescales, technology build and test activity is progressing in parallel to service design work EDDI release 1 will allow 111 suppliers to integrate directly to the service via Care Connect APIs. We are working with all 111 supplier systems. The strategic direction for appointment booking into EDs from NHS 111 remains system-to-system integration. This is the optimum solution; it will establish a stable, long-term platform and provide a seamless experience for all users. Looking to the future, we could work with ED IT suppliers to meet the standards if mandated by policy. Service adoption and process changes within EDs is being led by NHS England. Our Implementation and Business Change team is providing support as required. There are significant local differences due to different systems in use and different practices Communication and marketing of the service, intended to begin at the start of December, is being carefully planned by NHS England EDDI Release 2 and 3 are being planned for later in the season and will provide more sophisticated slot management and reporting functions respectively

The Emergency Department Digital Integrator (EDDI) will enable direct booking from 111 Online and 111 Telephony into Emergency Departments (EDs)

The screenshot displays the EDDI web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'NHS EDDI' and user information. Below, a search bar is present. The main area shows a patient's booking details: Name (SURNAME, Forename/Title), NHS Number (123 456 7890), and a status of 'Not to service'. A table lists available timeslots with columns for Name, Date of birth, 111 Data, and a 'View or Download' link. The table shows two slots: one from 1.30pm to 1.45pm and another from 1.45pm to 1.55pm, both with a status of 'Did not see'.

This tactical web service will be delivered via 3 releases with basic appointment functionality available for deployment from 1 November and further enhancements delivered by end of Dec



Provide Digital Channels for Citizen Guidance & Triage (2)

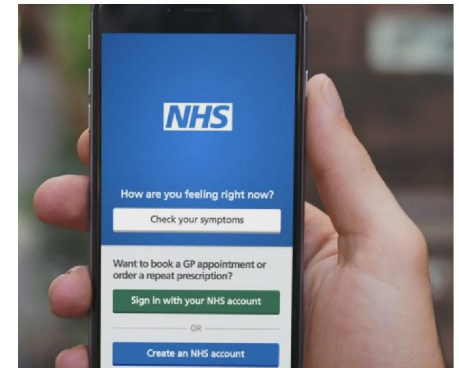
NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020



Providing digital channels for citizens to access information and guidance, self-manage and be routed to the most appropriate care, minimising contact and reducing the burden on clinical staff

Initiative	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
111 First	ED Streaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Digital has been commissioned to provide a design for a 'front door' streaming system for EDs, that will allow non-critical arrivals who have not being triaged through a 111 service to be managed more efficiently on arrival. This product will run on a console within EDs, allowing for self-service by patients and those who accompany them We are working with NHS England to understand their intended service design and to build a prototype, leveraging capability which exists currently within the 111 Online and NHS Pathways Reception Point systems, with the intention of being ready to pilot a service during December
	Coronavirus Response Service (CRS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A decision was made during week commencing 28 September to stand up the CRS with immediate effect, to support the increasing load on the 111 Service resulting from wave 2. The CRS will use 111 online in 'web-walker' mode for the Covid pathways (CRS staff using 111 online to guide them through the phone conversation with the caller). During this period, South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS), who manage and deliver the CRS, are managing the clinical risk associated with the service. NHS Digital are in conversations regarding the development of any further product to support CRS, that would differentiate from its existing product suite.
	Enhancements to Pathways and 111 Online to support COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Injuries Light' module in Pathways has gone into beta. This allows non-emergency Injury cases to be handed-off to Service Advisers only trained to take these calls We are working to deliver a large number of requested enhancements to 111 Online, Pathways and DOS to better to support the system this winter
NHS App	Utilisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 8 September, over 1 million people had downloaded and completed full authentication on the NHS App. These patients can use the NHS App to securely access a range of personalised services including managing GP appointments, checking symptoms, receiving advice and getting access to test results Since its launch in January 2019, patients have used the NHS App to view their medical records 4.5m times and order 1.2m repeat prescriptions. The NHS App's features can be accessed via mobile devices as well as web browsers on laptop or desktop computers

As of 8 Sept, over 1m patients were using the NHS App to access personalised health services including GP appointment booking, repeat prescriptions, tests results, and care advice



<https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/the-nhs-app/>

By helping reduce the need for face-to-face contact with health and care staff the NHS App continues to be a key part of the NHS response to COVID-19



Enable Remote and Collaborative Care

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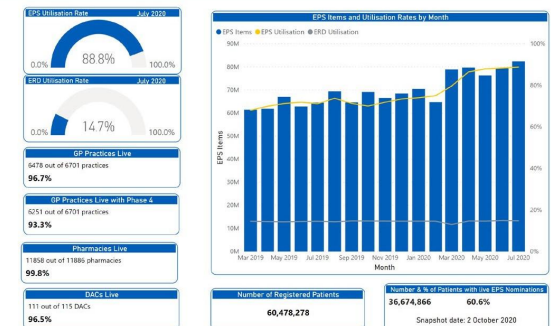


Making data and systems available to enable remote and collaborative working by health and care staff, minimising transmission and managing strained capacity (e.g. with practices closed or staff unwell)

Initiative	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Remote Digital Care	COVID Care at home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We provided data to support the pilot of 'COVID Care at Home' in London, Slough and South Tees. Researchers from Imperial College London have used this data to assess whether outcomes are improved by proactively monitoring patients' oxygen levels in their homes, including residential and care homes. The outcome of the evaluation will be presented to the National Incident Review Board (NIRB) on 14 October where a decision will be made about whether to proceed with a national roll-out High-level planning is underway to enable rapid mobilisation if the decision is made to proceed with a national roll-out. Further adoptions is likely as there is already significant take-up of the approach at sites that have piloted the model
RCD to support 'Bring your own device' BYOD	Primary Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We started deployment of a remote clinical desktop (RCD) on 21 September, to enable primary care staff to work from their own devices. As of 12 October, there were 74 live users, with deployment being scheduled for a further 389 users. The solution currently allows up to 500 staff to work remotely on their own devices and can be scaled further if required. The "BYOD" solution provides access to EMIS Web, TPP SystemOne, Vision, Docman 10, AccuRx Chain, Adastra, Microsoft Office, Microsoft Teams, Adobe Acrobat, and Internet Explorer and Chrome The RCD is being deployed to a cohort of early adopters and will be evaluated over a 12 month period. The solution is now available for Windows users and final testing is underway in order to make the solution available for Max / iOS users. Requests to trial the solution should be directed to remoteclinicaldesktop@nhs.net
Information Sharing	iPads for Adults Social Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHSx is providing 11k iPads to qualifying care homes, to support ongoing care and enable residents to stay better connected to family and friends. We have been commissioned to enable care providers to securely access appropriate patient health information from these devices for the purposes of direct care. 8k care providers have registered an interest in obtaining iPads and we will work alongside the NHSx supplier to develop capabilities. Key benefits include enabling care providers to access medicines information in emergency scenarios where the relevant GP or NHS Trust cannot be contacted

Electronic Prescription Service (EPS) Phase 4 was accelerated for COVID. From 29 September EPS is the default for prescribing, dispensing and reimbursement of primary care prescriptions in England

National Electronic Prescription Service Statistics: Last Refreshed 12/10/2020



As of July 2020, 89% of all primary care prescriptions were sent electronically and utilisation is expected to increase further following completion of Phase 4 (~2 month delay in reporting is due to time required to receive and process paper prescriptions)



Deliver Digital Services for NHS Test and Trace (1)

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NHS Digital is the primary digital delivery partner for Testing within NHS Test & Trace and is also leading the procurement of a strategic tracing platform within Trace. In addition, NHS Digital supports Contain via a series of dashboards plotting the spread of infection within the UK and provides IT service management and cyber security management for NHS Test & Trace

Initiative	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Digital Platform for Testing	Virus Testing (Pillar 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to rapidly extend and enhance the digital services for Pillar 2 testing. Key functional changes include enabling hospitals to order tests for specific patients ahead of elective care (21 August), bulk registration of patients from Social Care settings (27 August) and cohort pooling for Care Homes (on track to deliver by 19 October). These changes will enable more targeted and efficient allocation of tests for priority groups and increase Pillar 2 capacity Functional and performance improvements have also been delivered to better cater for large, concurrent volumes of requests and for scenarios where limited test capacity is available. This includes changes to content (as service refocused largely on symptomatic patients), introduction of eligibility triage to provide a flexible mechanism to determine who can request tests (8 October), restricting test sites that are displayed to a 75-mile radius of the provided postcode (9 September), along with performance enhancements to the underlying infrastructure In parallel, work continues to scale the service to support increasingly large volumes of tests, mass testing of asymptomatic populations, cater for different types of tests (e.g. lateral flow tests), and introduce capability to repeatedly test individuals (including accounts and result history)
	Integration with the Contact Tracing App	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integration between the digital infrastructure for testing and the Contact Tracing App was delivered on 13 August, enabling test booking to be accessed from within the Contact Tracing App and results to be returned directly to the Contact Tracing App. No patient identifiable data is sent from or returned to the Contact Tracing App so that anonymity is preserved within the App
	Antibody Testing (Pillar 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered digital services for COVID-19 antibody testing on 31 August ahead of the service launching on 14 September for care home workers in England, on 1 October for teachers in Scotland, and on 8 October to include all workers in Social Care and additional occupations in Health. This is a finger-prick test that can be completed at home for care workers who cannot access tests at NHS Sites
	Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The digital systems that support the Pillar 2 COVID-19 testing service remain stable and performant. When required, access to the service continues to be aligned to availability of test kits and appointment slots to help ease capacity constraints in other areas of the testing service

Bulk registration capability was introduced on 27 August to facilitate testing in social care settings

Get coronavirus tests for a care home

Get coronavirus (COVID-19) testing kits to test the residents and staff of your care home.

This testing is available throughout the UK.

The staff and residents do not need to have coronavirus symptoms for you to get the tests.

Who can make the application

To apply, you need to be the care home manager.

What you need

You'll need:

- the care home's unique organisation number (UON)
- total number of residents, including number of residents with coronavirus symptoms
- total number of staff, including agency staff
- your contact details

[Start now >](#)

This functionality supports organisations such as care homes, MOJ sites, and supported living sites



Deliver Digital Services for NHS Test and Trace (2)

NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020



NHS Digital is the primary digital delivery partner for Testing within NHS Test & Trace and is also leading the procurement of a strategic tracing platform within Trace. In addition, NHS Digital supports Contain via a series of dashboards plotting the spread of infection within the UK and provides IT service management and cyber security management for NHS Test & Trace

Initiative	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Trace	Digital Systems for Tracing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The digital services supporting the current Tracing operation are legacy Public Health England (PHE) systems (CTAS, Synergy, SGSS etc). These are supported by PHE and NHS BSA staff on behalf of NHS Test and Trace. NHS Digital was asked to work on a strategic plan to replace these platforms with more functionally sophisticated, national-scale, usable and integrable best-in-class vendor system We completed procurement for a solution and implementation partner on 31 August . Contract award is expected shortly. In agreement with NHS Test and Trace, development activities on a minimum viable product (MVP) implementation are well underway in parallel and delivery plans for the initial release are being finalised
Contain	Dashboards for Public and Local Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The public Neighbourhood View dashboard is being made available to show the number of positive COVID-19 cases confirmed by a lab test with the numbers of patients triaged for COVID-19 by 111 and 111 online. Users can search by postcode for information about their neighbourhood (see graphic) Enhancements to the 'Contain' private dashboard were delivered on 26 August and 9 September to improve functionality supporting local outbreak planning. This dashboard provides authorised users, including Local Authorities, CCGs, PHE and central government, with postcode-level views on the number of tests completed per 100k population and number of positive COVID-19 tests
Cyber	Cyber Defence Operations Centre (CDOC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protective Monitoring and Cyber Incident Management capabilities in place across critical NHS Test and Trace services and onboarding of new services continuing Specialist security support being provided to NHS Test and Trace when requested
	Contact Tracing App	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have established protective monitoring for the Contact Tracing App and have been providing active cyber security support since the national launch on 24 September

The "Neighbourhood View" dashboard is being made available to provide the public with a more granular, local view of positive COVID-19 test cases and 111 triages in an area

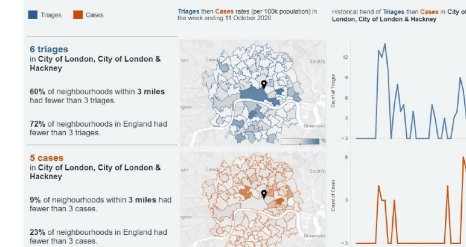
Covid-19 Neighbourhood View in England

Type postcode: Please use a space - e.g. LS1 6AE Select distance (miles): 3

City of London, City of London & Hackney has an estimated population of 8,706 and has 97 neighbourhoods within 3 miles

COVID-19 Triages and Cases in the week ending 11 October 2020

Triages are clinical assessments with potential COVID-19 symptoms following a call to NHS 111. Cases are a count of people, not tests. A full list of caveats is given at the end of the dashboard.



****Note – the illustrative view provided above is from a test environment and is not based on live data**



Support Delivery of Vaccinations (1)

NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020



Providing data, analysis and infrastructure to support delivery of vaccination programmes and facilitate post-vaccination monitoring

Initiatives	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Vaccinations	Provision of data to support the set-up of an Immunisation Management Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Digital has provided data to SystemC (the delivery partner selected by NHS England for Immunisation Management for the 2020 Flu season and the anticipated COVID-19 vaccinations programs in 2021). We have constructed the feed architecture to allow the data to be collated centrally en route to SystemC to allow for internal data analysis work and to facilitate open procurement of Immunisation Management services in future There are four key data flows: (1) Demographics data feed (including ethnicity) which is now being provided for ~60m people, to support both flu and COVID-19 programs (2) Clinical data which has been provided to support the flu programme (feed in place covering >99% citizens), (3) GP vaccination event data for all NHS-funded flu vaccinations (feed in place covering >97% citizens) and (4) Pharmacy vaccination event data for all NHS-funded flu vaccinations, via Pinnacle and Sonar (feed in place, full coverage) An additional request has been received to provide details of citizens on the Shielded Patient List and this is being progressed with the Chief Medical Officer for England's Office Additional requests have been received for provision of 2019 comparator events, which is being progressed with GP and Pharmacy suppliers, and for school vaccinations event capture, which is being progressed through an App created by Arden and Gem Clinical Support Unit which will feed data to NHS Digital once live
	National Booking Service for COVID-19 Vaccination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High level design has been completed for a new service to be built on NHS.UK, incorporating Personal Demographic System (PDS) look-up and basic validation and clinical checks, to allow NHS staff and qualifying citizens to book a vaccination in a national vaccination centre. The vaccination centres would be determined and configured at the point of availability of a vaccine and would run alongside delivery of vaccinations through GP surgeries. Vaccination events arising from bookings will also be captured and fed back into clinical records, in primary care and the Summary Care Record (SCR). The service will integrate with the SystemC National Immunisation Management Service to determine eligibility for vaccination and provide notification of booking and vaccination events Digital elements of additional services necessary to support a national vaccination programme, including logistics and operational service delivery, have not been commissioned from NHS Digital at this time

NHS Digital is supporting the NHSE-led Immunisation Management Service that aims to vaccinate ~25m people against influenza

Who can have the flu vaccine?

The flu vaccine is given to people who:

- are 65 and over (including those who'll be 65 by 31 March 2021)
- have certain health conditions
- are pregnant
- are in a long-stay residential care
- receive a carer's allowance, or are the main carer for an older or disabled person who may be at risk if you get sick
- live with someone [who's at high risk from coronavirus](#) (on the NHS shielded patient list)
- frontline health or social care workers

NHS Digital is providing data to support cohort identification, capturing vaccination events, and providing data on progress



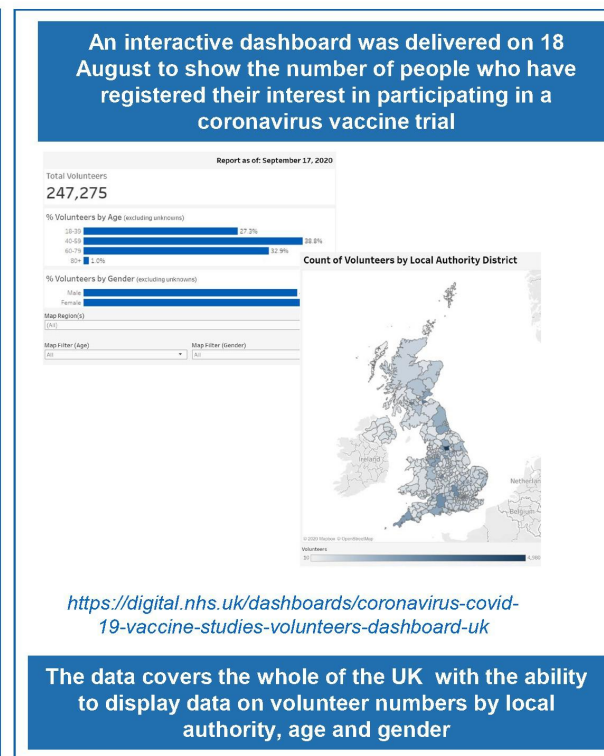
Support Delivery of Vaccinations (2)

NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020



Providing data, analysis and infrastructure to support delivery of vaccination programmes and facilitate post-vaccination monitoring

Initiatives	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Vaccinations	Permission to Contact (with NIHR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We continue to work with the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) to enhance the NHS COVID-19 vaccine research registry. As of 13 October, 277k people had registered an interest in being contacted for recruitment into vaccine trials. The registry has been used to invite eligible volunteers to participate in the first two trials to use the service (https://www.nhs.uk/sign-up-to-be-contacted-for-research) with ~15k eligible people registered for specific trials (as of 12 October)The main focus over the last 10 weeks has been on conducting performance testing to ensure the service can handle large numbers of concurrent visitors. Functional enhancements have been delivered including the ability to capture telephone numbers and communication preferences and refining the permission questions
	National Surveillance System for Pharmacovigilance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">We are working with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the Vaccines Task Force to establish a clear commission for a national surveillance system for assessing vaccine effectiveness. Given the potential for a number of vaccines to be made available roughly simultaneously, and for UK licensing authorities to approve the supply of unlicensed vaccines (common approach in a pandemic scenario), the ability to quickly deploy sophisticated safety studies using a common national assessment baseline will be critical. This will necessitate the deployment of mechanisms for vaccinees to self-report symptoms in addition to those reported to clinicians directly, the set-up of a Trusted Research Environment for pharmacovigilance modelling, and the establishment of interfaces with Life Sciences & Academic partners, as well as standard Information Governance approval processes





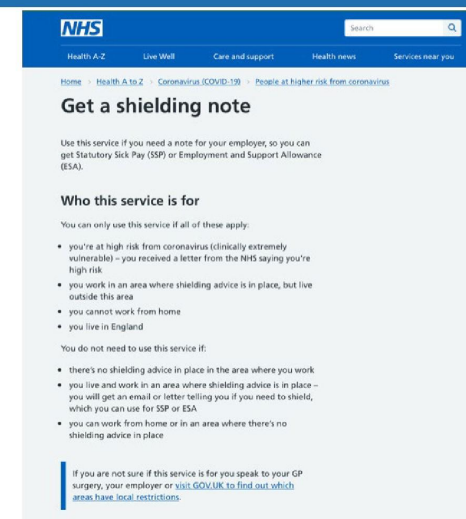
Identify and Protect Vulnerable Citizens

NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020

Identifying and protecting vulnerable citizens, to ensure that they can be shielded or receive additional support

Initiatives	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Risk Stratification	Digital Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the request of DHSC, NHS Digital is developing digital infrastructure to support a more sophisticated approach to identifying individuals with increased vulnerability to COVID-19. DHSC has commissioned Oxford University to develop a risk assessment tool based on a combination of specific characteristics (e.g. age, sex, ethnicity, medical conditions). Delivery of an alpha release for a clinical-facing risk stratification tool is planned for mid-November. The team is working closely with the Department of Health and Social Care and Oxford University to ensure all appropriate governance is in place ready for go-live. This includes Information Governance processes, Medical Device Regulatory Requirements and live-service support arrangements.
Shielded Patient List (SPL)	Identifying vulnerable citizens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Shielded Patient List (SPL) identifies patients at the highest risk from COVID-19, based on criteria set by the Chief Medical Officer for England. The shielding scheme was paused nationally on 01 August but NHS Digital continues to issue weekly iterations of the SPL to inform responses to local lockdowns. The list size remains at ~2.2m patients From the start of September NHS Digital started providing weekly management information to NHS England on number of children currently on the SPL. This will be used by NHS England and CCGs to ensure that the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) guidance is followed for high risk children
	Shielding Note Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NHS Digital provided an interim service where letters were issued (via email) for patients on the SPL who live outside and work inside a local shielding area. The letters were used as evidence for statutory sick pay or to support employment for patients meeting the qualifying conditions. A new digital service to replace the email services was made available for patients on 23 September and for employers on 30 September As of 12 October, there was no shielding advice issued for any area in England. The service is available should it be needed and guidance on its use will be updated in line with evolving policy guidance

A shielding note service was launched on 23 September so vulnerable individuals affected by local lockdowns can access statutory support



Further information can be accessed via
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/people-at-higher-risk/shielding-note/>

Guidance on use of the service is aligned to the latest guidance on shielding

Intelligence to Support Planning

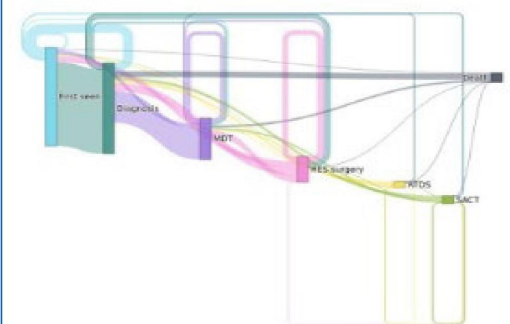
NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020

Providing data, analysis & dashboards to help the system understand the prevalence and spread of infection & manage capacity

Initiatives	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Analysis	Impact of COVID-19 on Cancer Pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are working jointly with PHE on an analysis programme to assess the impact of COVID-19 on patient pathways for cancer and outcomes for patients with COVID-19 and cancer The collaboration has applied new approaches and methods to answer important research questions about the impact of the pandemic on cancer including looking at outcomes for cancer patients on the Shielded Patients List Findings will be presented by end October to the NHS Cancer Programme and used to advise the National Cancer Board on future data and analytical work related to cancer and COVID-19
New data collections	Secondary Care Medicines Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot collection of secondary care medicines from the 2 largest suppliers, WellSky and Cerner, continues and is being used to inform the specification for a secondary care medicines data set at patient level 6 months of data has been analysed from 2 WellSky sites and logic developed to enable ~95% of data to be matched to NHS standards for prescription data (dm+d). All participating WellSky trusts (26) plan to start historic and daily data feeds to NHS Digital's Data Processing Service (DPS) by mid-November Collection from the first Cerner pilot site has started (2 pilot sites engaged) to provide data for analysis and matching to the dm+d standard This data collection was accelerated to support the COVID-19 response by enabling a better understanding of the role of medicines used in treatment of COVID-19 patients in secondary care (e.g. dexamethasone) and provides an additional dataset for research
Situation Reports	COVID-19 Hospital Discharge Service Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Started a bi-weekly data collection on 14 September on behalf of NHS England to measure the backlog of continuing healthcare (CHC) assessments. These assessments were not required during the emergency period but have resumed from 01 September as part of the third phase of the NHS response. This collection captures the size of the backlog for each CCG so that progress against the mandate to complete all outstanding CHC assessments by 31 March can be assessed

A joint programme of work with Public Health England is underway to assess the impacts of COVID-19 on cancer patients

Sankey diagram showing progression of patients along cancer pathways utilising combination of data held by PHE and NHS Digital



Findings will be presented to the NHS Cancer Programme to help inform recommendations for cancer care during the coronavirus outbreak



Enable Research and Clinical Trials

NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020

- Facilitating the sharing and availability of data and analyses to support research, enabling evaluation of different response interventions and increasing understanding of COVID-19 transmission, immunity and clinical outcomes.
- Enabling acceleration of COVID-19 Drug and Vaccine clinical trials.

Initiatives	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Enabling Research	Trusted Research Environment for SAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued to enrich a Trusted Research Environment (TRE) for cancer research and work underway to load and link requested data sets• Researchers from PHE, the National Institute for Cardiovascular Research (NICOR) and the British Heart Foundation (BHF) continue to progress nationally prioritised, COVID-19 research questions using the data, analytical tools and collaboration resources provided in their dedicated TREs
	Central Disseminator of GP Data for research and planning (GPDfPR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following endorsement by the BMA, RCGP and National Data Guardian, NHS Digital is collecting and disseminating GP data for COVID-19 planning and research. 97% of active practices have agreed to participate and the data sets covers ~55 million patients• Management information was published on 10 September to assist users, and potential future users, to understand the coverage and quality for GPDfPR (https://digital.nhs.uk/coronavirus/gpes-data-for-pandemic-planning-and-research/guide-for-analysts-and-users-of-the-data#data-coverage-management-information)• Data for COVID-19 planning and commissioning purposes has been provided to 4 CCGs with applications being progressed for a further 42 CCGs and 24 Local Authorities• We are working closely with HDR UK and NIHR to prioritise COVID-19 research requests involving GPDfPR, with 9 requests completed and a further 12 applications are being progressed

Trusted Research Environments (TRE) provide rapid, safe and trustworthy access to essential health and care data for timely research at scale



NHS Digital's basic TRE provide de-identified data products, analysis tools (e.g. R Studio, Databricks), collaboration tools and mechanisms for safe publishing



Provide Infrastructure and Support Additional Capacity

NHS Digital COVID-19 Response – 13 October, 2020

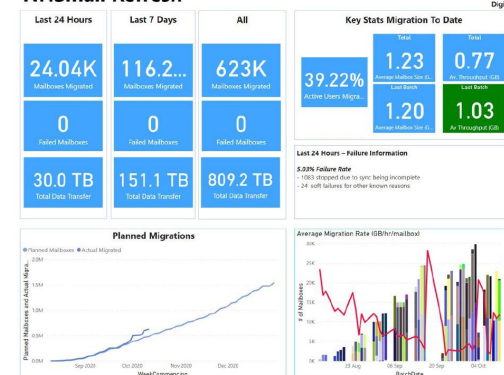


Providing secure infrastructure and supporting additional care capacity through support and logistics for cross-system data access, fast authentication of new users, Nightingale hospital facilities and connectivity to private providers

Initiatives	Focus area	Deliveries and impact
Connectivity	Health and Social Care Network (HSCN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 99% of NHS premises have now migrated to new and improved HSCN connectivity and are benefitting from improved network and bandwidth capacity, financial savings and easier and smoother access to clinical systems. The vast majority of sites have used the associated savings to significantly upgrade their connectivity to accelerate adoption of digital services and mitigate any sudden increases in demand for bandwidth We are working with network suppliers to identify organisations whose current connections are close to capacity (either at peak times or on average) and providing support so that necessary upgrades are completed ahead of any surge in demand due to winter pressures
	Care Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active engagement with Care Homes has resulted in 270 sites upgrading their connectivity and improving their access to digital services At request of NHSx, we have started 4 weeks of user research to fully understand the connectivity available to care homes, the barriers to sites upgrading, and the drivers that would encourage wide-scale adoption of improved connectivity
Fast and secure Authentication	Virtual Smartcards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to support deployment of Entrust virtual smartcards for use with key national systems including Lorenzo, eRS, ESR, SCR and Adastra. Entrust and Iosec virtual smartcards are funded centrally for the first 12 months although neither solution is yet fully accredited by NHS Digital We are working with GP System suppliers to enable adoption of the digital signing capability for Entrust virtual smartcards, which will allow it to be used with the Electronic Prescription Service. EMIS and One Advance are planning to start pilots in October / November with EMIS planning to enable all instances of their systems to work with Entrust digital signing immediately after a pilot has completed

NHS Mail Technical Refresh commenced on 10 August and will complete by December 2020. The migration delivers significant improvements to the NHSmail service and provides access to collaboration capabilities within Office 365

NHSmail Refresh



As of 12 October, migrations were ahead of schedule. 39% of accounts have been migrated (623k accounts) with very low failure rates