

symptoms. It does and that's why we contact trace. In this case it is the contact tracing aspect that is the key to who gets tested

[11/03/2020, 10:20:56] Jamie Njoku-Goodwin: Do we have a clear view on when Nadine first became symptomatic? My understanding is that she felt a little under the weather on Thursday, but didn't develop the actual symptoms until Friday. If so, it might be worth including in the background that this IWD event was held before ND was actually symptomatic.

[11/03/2020, 10:26:37] James Slack: Final below. Line on test not working removed. 15 mins reference added at request of DHSC

Re the PM on background..

'We follow the advice of Public Health England and the CMO.

'The PM has no symptoms so there is no need for a test.

'The PM was not in close contact with ND. The advice is that you would have to be within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes to pass it on. It is also worth restating the advice on washing hands - which the PM does regularly.

On the situation for anybody who may have had contact with ND..

PHE are undertaking urgent contact tracing and will advise people as necessary. If you are not contacted by PHE there is no action. However if you experience symptoms please use the 111 online coronavirus service or call 111 to find out what to do if you are concerned you have been in contact with someone who may have the virus or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive.

[11/03/2020, 10:28:17] Matt Hancock MP: I'm content with this line. We clearly need to clear up the testing for non symptomatic people.

Having spoken to Chris Whitty and PHE ppl I'm with now, Patrick what you've said is not right.

The clinical advice I've had is that the test is NOT reliable on people without symptoms. The reason is that there are so many false negatives when there are no symptoms that testing is counter productive.

Can the scientists please clear this up urgently

[11/03/2020, 10:28:30] Jamie Njoku-Goodwin: TBA on testing, our understanding from PHE has been that testing on people with no symptoms is not effective or reliable because of the number of false negatives that testing on asymptomatic subjects would yield.

[11/03/2020, 10:31:28] Ben Warner: Can we check the 15 minutes line. I don't understand how that can be true scientifically.

I think that PHE might use that as a method of risking, but it isn't true to say to pass it on you have to be in contact for greater than 15 minutes.

[11/03/2020, 10:33:03] James Slack: I really need to get a line out so can I have a quick answer please win whether to remove 15 mins - Yes or No? Thanks

[11/03/2020, 10:34:33] Matt Hancock MP: Do it without the 15 minutes until we are sure

[11/03/2020, 10:34:59] Matt Hancock MP: For the PMs point of view he says he wasn't within 2 metres of Nadine so its immaterial

[11/03/2020, 10:35:12] Matt Hancock MP: Have we checked this with Nadine? Vital she doesn't contradict

[11/03/2020, 10:36:28] Chris Whitty: Not reliable is correct. It can pick up some asymptomatic cases. But not advised.

[11/03/2020, 10:36:29] Matt Hancock MP: No. We cannot say this. She has told people she had symptoms on Thursday. We must not cover anything up

[11/03/2020, 10:37:32] Chris Whitty: Patrick and I will do a joint note not on WhatsApp on testing

[11/03/2020, 10:37:43] James Slack: Who can do this urgently please?

[11/03/2020, 10:38:03] Matt Hancock MP: Jamie pls

[11/03/2020, 10:39:18] Jamie Njoku-Goodwin: I'm on it right now

[11/03/2020, 10:46:29] Imran: DHSC folk - we've had a call from a school who was there. They called 111 and have been advised to send teachers and 10 children who attended reception home and self isolate. On the basis they were in same room as Nadine for at least 15 mins. This feels inconsistent with above?

[11/03/2020, 10:47:22] Patrick Vallance CSA: Agree "not reliable" not "does not work"

[11/03/2020, 10:50:38] James Slack: I think the issue is that the school doesn't know who ND is so can't say how close to her that pupils got. Which is different to the PM situation.

[11/03/2020, 10:53:22] Jamie Njoku-Goodwin: Nadine is happy with statement

[11/03/2020, 10:53:31] James Slack: Great - sending now

[11/03/2020, 10:54:43] Natasha Price: Will pick up

[11/03/2020, 11:36:11] Dom Cummings: This has a moving version of the graph -- PV and i agreed earlier that he shd present a version of this graph tmrw and explain it -- think a moving version is a good idea to enhance understanding, pls get the science people to brief the digi team on best format -- we shd get this nailed down TODAY not be scrabbling tmrw

[11/03/2020, 11:36:15] Dom Cummings: <https://www.statnews.com/2020/03/11/flattening-curve-coronavirus/>

[11/03/2020, 11:38:42] Emma Dean: Ill get the team to pick this up now Dom with a COP deadline

[11/03/2020, 11:39:12] Emma Dean: Ben, let me know if this is best done joined up with your team

[11/03/2020, 12:10:00] Natasha Price: With ICO as SoS says but will get you a written update this evening.

[11/03/2020, 13:08:58] Dom Cummings: I think it is really important that senior people understand, and are able to discuss with PM this fundamental question: all sensible people can see the trajectory and how social distancing will be needed to flatten curve. very sensible people, including former CDC officials etc and doctors, are saying *the risks of delay are MUCH higher than the risks of going too soon'.* If we are NOT going to say tmrw 'we are starting social distancing TODAY, we are waiting until next week' -- and effectively just keep washing your hands -- there will be MASSIVE pushback on these lines -- **WHY WAIT 5 DAYS WHY NOT MOVE NOW AND FLATTEN CURVE EARLIER??**

Proposing tomorrow that we DELAY action until next week will require extremely clear scientific justification, with supporting data / models etc -- made PUBLIC for global scrutiny.

From the comms mtng this morning I am very concerned that officials do not have the materials we need to explain to people tmrw what our lines of defence mean in detailed practical terms for them... If my wife is ill, but Im ok and am the only earner dol have to stay at home and just lose money? etc etc

[11/03/2020, 14:24:48] James Slack: Agree with all of this. We're at a tipping point in the media cycle.

It would've occurred today were it not for the Budget. If we don't have action to show tomorrow, or a very detailed explanation of what we are doing and why, I think we'll find it very difficult to keep the media with us. The Times and Telegraph leader columns today point to the growing disquiet. Their position is 'You've done Ok so far, but...'

[11/03/2020, 15:33:11] Ben Warner: Do we know whether this is spread by dogs & cats?

[11/03/2020, 15:34:24] Patrick Vallance CSA: We looked at this early on in SAGE and I will get someone to send you the info

[11/03/2020, 23:25:45] Matt Hancock MP: Tomorrow's post COBR comms are critical. The message needs to be super simple. People will want to know what the decision that this is a global pandemic, and we've moved to Delay, means for them.

I propose we focus again on the "case isolation" strand and say something like:

"Yesterday the WHO declared coronavirus a global pandemic.

"Today we have moved to the delay and mitigate phase of the action plan, and we don't rule out any of the measures set out in it.

"What that means for you is that if you have symptoms, however mild, you need to stay at home for 14