

NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire

Patient Participation Groups

Update - 26 Sept 2024

Welcome to the NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire PPG update

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Share your NHS patient experiences – NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire

We think it is important that people can share their experiences of the NHS in their own words.

By sharing your experiences of the NHS, you can help health care professionals and the Integrated Care Board (ICB) to understand what was good, what was bad and what would have made your experience better.

How to share your NHS experience - There are various ways you can share your experiences. Please see below:

- **Online form** - You can tell us about your NHS experience by following this [link](#) to a short survey. The full survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PExNHS>
- **By telephone or video call** - Contact the engagement team at hw.engage@nhs.net to arrange to speak to someone on the telephone or by video call.

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The Big Quality Conversation 2024-2025 – Have your say – Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust

Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust want to find out what the experience is like for people when they come into their hospitals and are in their care.

Their survey is for patients, carers, families and friends and they would like to encourage anyone who has experienced care at one of their hospitals in the last 12 months to share their feedback.

The Big Quality Conversation is 100% anonymous and your feedback helps Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust to improve their services. The results directly inform their Quality Priorities which they publicly report on every year and monitor progress on at monthly meetings.

The Acute Trust welcomes views from as many people as possible and encourages people to share the survey with anyone who may want to share their views.

Survey - The survey can be found here:
www.surveyhero.com/c/BigQualityConversation24-25

The deadline to complete the survey is **Sunday 5 January 2025**.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/bqc24/>

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10,000 Stories – Share your views – Healthwatch Herefordshire

Healthwatch Herefordshire are collecting 10,000 stories from people across Herefordshire. This is your chance to make a change for the better, for you and your community. They want to hear what you love and would like to change about Herefordshire, and why.

This is so they can take your stories and use them in the newly emerging Citizens Alliance Herefordshire. An alliance of many different organisations such as education, faith and community, giving us all the platform to drive social change.

You can share your story here: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/MSA7JS/>

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Summer Survey 2024: Pharmacy Services – Have your say – Healthwatch Worcestershire

Healthwatch Worcestershire finds out what people think about health and social care services. They use this information to tell those who run the services how they can be improved.

They want to hear the views and experiences of people in Worcestershire who use their local pharmacy.

Survey - Please take 5 minutes to complete their anonymous and confidential survey online here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pharmacyservices2024>

Please contact Healthwatch Worcestershire directly if you need paper copies of the survey and prepaid reply envelopes – telephone: 01386 550264 or email: info@healthwatchworcestershire.co.uk

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Introducing further advertising restrictions on TV and online for less healthy food and drink: consultation on internet protocol television (IPTV) – Have your say – Department for Health & Social Care (DfHS)

On 1 October 2025, further restrictions ('the advertising restrictions') will come into force on the advertising of certain products categorised as less healthy food and drink. Two types of restrictions will come into force:

- a 9pm watershed for television broadcasts, which, under section 321A of the Communications Act 2003, places a duty on [Ofcom](#) to set standards prohibiting advertisements for identifiable less healthy food and drink products from being broadcast between 5.30am and 9pm
- a total ban for paid-for advertising of identifiable products online

As well as linear (traditional) broadcast services, on-demand programme services (ODPS), often known as catch-up services, are also subject to the 9pm watershed for broadcast television.

The advertising restrictions are in the [Communications Act 2003](#), as amended by the [Health and Care Act 2022](#). Between December 2022 and March 2023 the DfHS consulted on the secondary legislation that will implement certain aspects of the restrictions. [The government's response has now been published](#).

This new consultation seeks further views on an aspect of the 2022 to 2023 consultation, relating to the application of the advertising restrictions to internet protocol television (IPTV) services.

Consultation information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/introducing-further-advertising-restrictions-on-tv-and-online-for-less-healthy-food-and-drink-internet-protocol-television-iptv/introducing-further-advertising-restrictions-on-tv-and-online-for-less-healthy-food-and-drink-consultation-on-internet-protocol-television-iptv#consultation>

Survey link: Please read the consultation information and then complete the survey -<https://consultations.dhsc.gov.uk/66d838439e331750640fa3b4>

Deadline: Please share your views by survey or email by **11:59pm on 10 October 2024.**

Local health campaigns and news

New RSV vaccine now available to help protect all newborn babies from severe respiratory illness

All women that are 28 weeks pregnant or more are being offered the new, free, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccine to protect their babies from RSV. This very common viral illness affects the airways and lungs and can be serious for young babies and older adults.

Symptoms of RSV include a cough, sore throat, sneezing and a runny or blocked nose. It can also cause pneumonia and other life-threatening conditions in severe cases. To help protect newborn babies, health leaders in Herefordshire and Worcestershire urging all local pregnant women, to get vaccinated once they reach week 28 of their pregnancy.

Dr Will Taylor, Medical Director for NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire says: “The vast majority of children will catch RSV before they reach two years of age because the virus spreads easily through coughs and sneezes, especially during autumn and winter. Although it typically causes mild, cold-like symptoms, in vulnerable infants it can lead to severe lung infections like pneumonia and infant bronchiolitis; and sadly, it is a leading cause of infant death.”

“Getting the single dose vaccine during each pregnancy is the best way to protect your baby from severe RSV. It reduces the risk of your child developing severe RSV lung disease by 70% in the first six months of life, when your baby is most at risk. The vaccine is safe for pregnant women to have from week 28 of pregnancy to maximise protection for the baby, but women can still get the vaccine up until they give birth.”

If you are currently pregnant there are several ways in which you can get the RSV vaccine this autumn, you can contact your midwife or your GP practice.

In the UK, RSV accounts for approximately 20,000 hospitalisations in children under 1 each year and is responsible for 20 to 30 infant deaths each year. The new vaccine offers huge opportunities to prevent severe illness in those most vulnerable to RSV, helping to protect lives and ease winter pressures for the NHS.

If you're planning a pregnancy, or are currently pregnant, there are also other vaccines that are vital during pregnancy such as the whooping cough (pertussis), flu and Covid-19 vaccines. All these vaccines are safe and help to

protect babies by passing immunity to them during pregnancy. Midwives or GP practices can provide a full list of recommended vaccines prior to and during pregnancy.

The RSV vaccination is available all year-round but as cases peak every winter around December, it's important that those eligible take up the offer as soon as possible when invited by the NHS. Older adults aged 75 – 79 are also eligible for the RSV vaccine and will be contacted by their GP practice.

Published on the ICB website: 13 September 2024

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Local health news and links

- NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICS: <https://www.hwics.org.uk/news/latest-news>
- NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB Board Meetings. Dates, meeting papers and information on how to view the meetings can be found here: <https://herefordshireandworcestershire.icb.nhs.uk/meetings>
- Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust: <https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/news>
- Herefordshire General Practice <https://www.herefordshiregeneralpractice.co.uk/news>
- SW Healthcare: <https://www.swhealthcare.org.uk/patients>
- Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust: <https://www.worcsacute.nhs.uk/news-and-media/in-the-news>
- Wye Valley NHS Trust: <https://www.wyevalley.nhs.uk/news-events/trust-newsroom.aspx>

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Engagement team links

- Current Engagement opportunities: <https://www.hwics.org.uk/get-involved>

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Best wishes,

The Engagement Team

The Engagement Team can be contacted by emailing: hw.engage@nhs.net Please email if you wish to unsubscribe from this mailing list. NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire ICB holds your details confidentially and will not share them with a third party. It is important for the ICB to ensure the details we hold are accurate, it is your responsibility to ensure that the details provided are accurate and that you keep us informed of any changes in the future. If there are any contact detail changes please notify us by using the email address above. For more information about our volunteer policies, please visit:

<https://herefordshireandworcestershire.icb.nhs.uk/documents/policies/communication-involvement-and-engagement-policies>

www.hwics.org.uk