

BASHH Membership Video Conference

Discussion Summary (Wednesday 15th July 2020)

Introduction

This document provides a summary of the discussion that took place during the BASHH Membership video conference on Wednesday 15th July (5.00-6.00pm). The video conference was organised to provide a forum for members to put questions to BASHH President Dr John McSorley and other available BASHH Officers regarding latest COVID-19 developments and a range of related issues.

It is hoped that these video conferences will take place on a regular basis, every two weeks. The next video conference will be held jointly with the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare, the webinar will provide advice on telemedicine management. The webinar is scheduled for Wednesday 29th July 4-5pm. If you are keen to join the next discussion, please [register](#) to attend [here](#).

Discussion Summary

Telemedicine

Attendees discussed the new draft materials on delivering telemedicine that have been made available on the BASHH website [here](#). The materials have been developed to support services and staff in responding to recent developments and delivering appointments remotely.

It was mentioned that in some areas third parties have been involved in supporting informal telemedicine training for staff, before bespoke training and resources for sexual health had been made available.

In the next few weeks Dr Olwen Williams will be hosting a webinar for members to discuss the national guidance for the handling of digital images in more detail. Additional membership webinars on video conferences and sexual health services will also be taking place in the coming weeks, with further details and timings to be announced shortly.

Joint working

The discussion covered joint working that BASHH has been involved in during recent months to support the development of new guidance resources in light of COVID-19.

A recent example included joint working between BASHH, the Faculty for Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) and the Primary Care Women's Health Forum to coordinate new guidance for LARCs and other contraception women's health priority issues.

The same kind of joint working is also taking place with BHIVA, in which BASHH is inputting into the development of relevant HIV guidance and co-badging materials as appropriate.

Representatives from BASHH also continue to join weekly high-level calls with the Department of Health and Social Care, Public Health England and other senior stakeholders to assess service pressures and opportunities to address these.

PrEP

Attendees discussed the latest development with regards to the PrEP Impact Trial and provision of the drug. With registration for the Impact Trial now having closed and despite initial communications stating that surplus

supplies would need to be destroyed, attendees discussed that remaining NHS England supply of PrEP can still be used by services.

Members raised concerns about there being a 4-6 week gap between the end of the PrEP trial and the start of wider local delivery. Some attendees highlighted that they have been able to come to an agreement with their local Trust to ensure that PrEP remains available during this transition period.

In other areas members explained that arrangements with charities had been put in place to help avoid there being a gap between PrEP provision and local demand.

Some areas have also completed local engagement exercises where PrEP provision has been identified and agreed as a core service activity.

It was suggested that if members are concerned about not being able to meet the demand for PrEP during this transition period, they should contact their commissioners to see if supporting arrangements can be made.

BASHH Clinical Thermometer Survey

The BASHH clinical thermometer survey has been hugely helpful in understanding service capacity and staffing over the past few months. The survey has been used to influence policy and has been circulated to senior stakeholders and commissioners.

The third round of the survey will go live in the next few days, the survey has been slimmed down and will not take as long to complete.

The BASHH President strongly urged members to complete the survey a good amount of data can be captured.

BASHH webinars and training

Moving forwards, BASHH is looking to arrange additional membership video conferences to help address a broader range of topical sexual health issues and to take place within working hours where possible.

Attendees were particularly keen for online training to be made available with regards to remote service provision, and it was confirmed that this will be reflected in the agenda for the coming weeks.

Members also asked whether training webinars were approved by the Royal College of Physicians. Whilst they're not as of yet, it was confirmed that BASHH is currently working with the RCP to get their online training modules CPD-approved.

BASHH remains keen to hear from members on what areas they would like to be covered in future webinar suggestions. **If you have a topic area that you would like to put forward please share these with bashh@mandfhealth.com.**

Future membership video conferences will continue to take place via Zoom for the time being, as this has been identified as the most inclusive platform which allows the widest section of the BASHH membership to participate. BASHH is currently reviewing the use of other online platforms to help facilitate the hosting of larger events, including virtual conferences.

AOBs

The BASHH Spring meeting originally scheduled for March will now take place between the 19th and 21st of October. Details on how to sign up for the meeting will be released shortly.

Further Information

You can register your interest for the next BASHH member Zoom teleconference [here](#).