

# Wellbeing and mental health throughout Covid-19

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#### This presentation

- Introduce guidance how to look after ourselves and each other
- We will look at -
  - The emotional impact of working on the front-line
  - What we know can help, including practical strategies
  - · How to identify if we or others need further help
  - How to access help if we need it







#### Phases of Covid-19



Preparation and anticipatory anxiety

Working hard, physically and emotionally exhausted. We may swing between coping and feeling overwhelmed

Adjustment and recovery

Set up positive self care

Understand ourselves, use practical self-care strategies

Reflect, self-care and help if we need it



#### **CHALLENGE**

Distressed patients

Having to work differently

Feeling physically unsafe at work

Physically exhausted



Too many demands

Managing home and work

#### **SURVIVAL MODE**

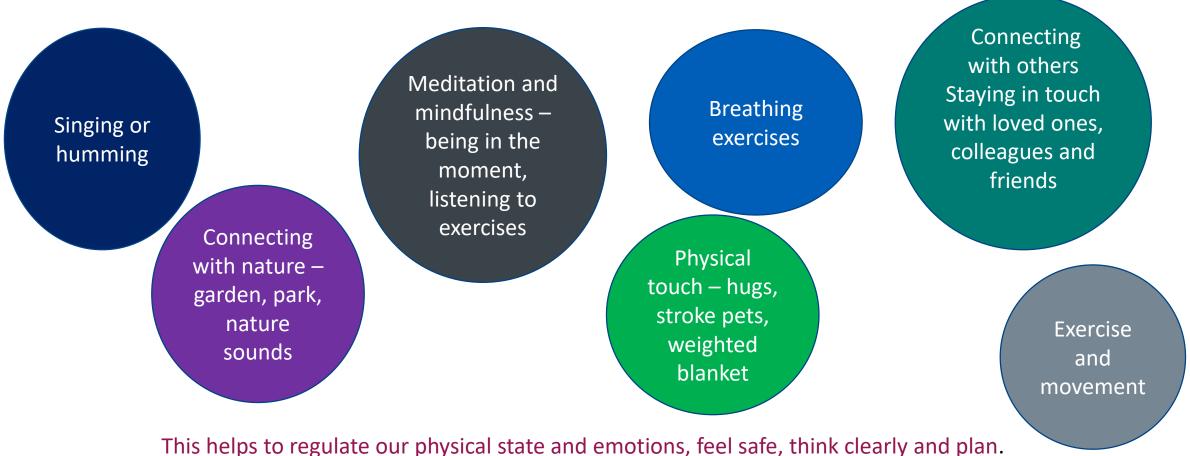


To reduce the chance of chronic stress and burnout we need to move into a state of feeling connected to others and calmer over time



#### Some simple tips

To reduce the impact of chronic stress, we need to try to step out of survival mode and into a 'calm and connected' mode. There are some simple ways you can move into this state:





#### 3-4-5 breathing

Breathe in for three seconds, hold for four seconds and breathe out for five seconds.

Do a few rounds of this.

When your outbreath is longer than your in-breath, you reduce the activation of your stress state and encourage your body to move into a calm state.



#### Guidance

- Reach out to colleagues, friends or family members for support.
- Take time to look after your physical wellbeing this will have a big impact on how you
  feel emotionally. Taking breaks at work, maintaining a routine, eating well and exercising
  can help.
- Think about what has helped you cope in the past to cope with stressful situations.
   Focus on what is in your control, try to pace yourself and remember that this will not last forever.
- Extend the self-compassion and care you have for others to yourself.
- Look after your emotional health. After difficult or stressful experiences at work it is normal for memories or images of what has happened to come into your mind. Try to let these memories come and go rather than blocking them or trying not to think about them. Try not to stay focused on difficult thoughts and feelings – using some of the resources below can help.



#### Resources

Health and social care resources –

Bereavement support line – call 0300 303 4434 (8am to 8pm 7 days a week)

Text service text 85258

Help for heroes – a field guide to self care

Every mind matters

Staff resources –

Wellbeing support line

Staff common rooms

Wellbeing apps – silvercloud, daylight, sleepio, unmind,

headspace





#### What do we need to look out for?

- Most of us won't need to access psychological therapies
- It is normal to have bad dreams, feel anxious, scared, worried or flat and have problems sleeping
- Look out for signs of feeling emotionally exhausted, tearful, overwhelmed or low – these feelings are a cue to get support including telling your manager how you are feeling



#### **PTSD**

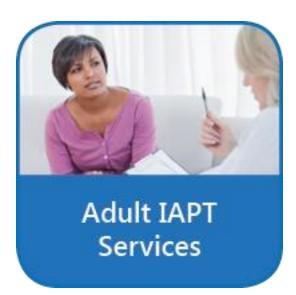
- A psychological reaction occurring after experiencing (a) highly stressing event(s).
- It is characterized by depression, anxiety, flashbacks, anger, poor concentration, irritability, sense of disconnection, recurrent nightmares and avoidance of reminders of the event(s)
- NICE recommended therapy can help, if symptoms persist for at least one month





### Accessing local IAPT services

- Local, evidence based psychological therapies
- Some of us will need psychological interventions if we experience anxiety, depression, complex bereavement or PTSD over time. Local IAPT services are available to treat these conditions.
- You can self-refer or be referred by your GP
- Services have developed an online offer and are open for referrals
- Contact <u>www.nhs.uk</u> find a psychological therapies service





## Thank you

# Health and Wellbeing Webinar 6<sup>th</sup> May 2020



Canon Andrew Horsfall
Chaplaincy & Spiritual Care Manager

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NHS England / Improvement







@NHSSafeguarding @Randallcath



# East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust Bereavement and Spiritual Care

Continuing care and compassion in the Covid 19 Pandemic Health and wellbeing of Patients and staff

NHS England and NHS Improvement





#### In 6 weeks we have.....

- Developed guidance to aid Care after Death and Bereavement Care during Covid-19
- Rolled our strategy out across the Trust two acute hospitals, two community hospitals and community teams
- Increased our Bereavement Team from one Bereavement Nurse to include two extra bereavement support worker and two counsellors
- Established a Bereavement Care Helpline available 7 days a week
   8am 6pm
- Established a dedicated 'Ask Bereavement' email for staff queries and support available



#### In 6 weeks we have.....

- Support calls to bereaved families to offer support and guidance
- Had contact from families previously supported by the bereavement nurses who are finding their current situation and isolation difficult
- Inputted Covid -19 deaths into the National CPNS Database for NHSI/E
- Maintained regular contact with relatives of patients in the last days of life (both Covid19 and Non Covid 19 patients) and updated them on their relative's condition - this has been maintained by the Specialist Palliative Care Team



#### Spiritual Care Team have

- Established a Staff Pastoral Support Line providing emotional support and a listening ear for staff
- Facilitated 'virtual Visiting' with patients and families by 'Zoom'
- Supported staff to facilitate 'virtual visits' for patients and families using Ipads (donated by the Fire Service and others)
- SOP visiting / patient property
- Established 'Oasis' at Trust sites for staff to take time out and reflect away from the clinical area –available for ALL staff to use 24/7
- Written and recorded blogs by the Chaplains







# Supporting staff in stressful times.

emotional, physical, spiritual.



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#### Oasis - 'A Place to Be'



A safe space for reflection, conversation and relaxation away from the workplace.

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#### Oasis – 'A Place to Be'



How am I feeling today?

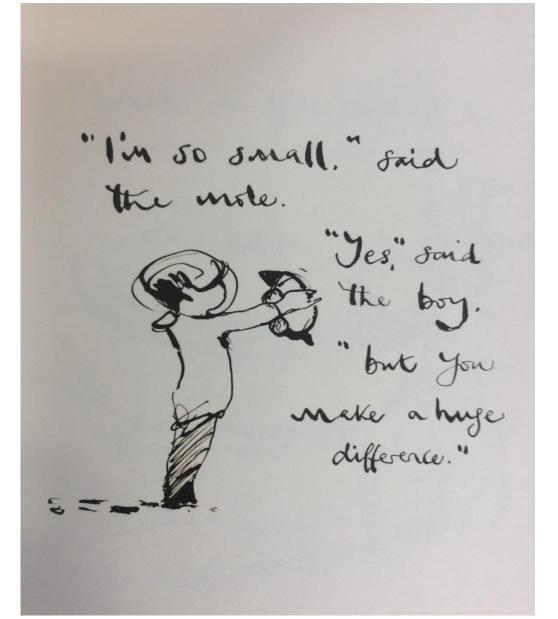






# Sometimes staff feel overwhelmed

"Coming here has saved me from being stressed and going off sick."





## Jasper is the newest member of the Spiritual Care Team

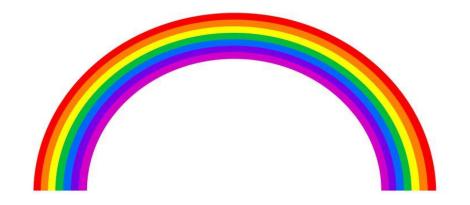
'Jasper instantly makes me smile, no matter how hard my day.' (staff member)



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# EAST LANCASHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST FAMILY LIAISON SERVICE

# ELHT Safeguarding Team's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

NHS England and NHS Improvement





## MEET THE TEAM

- Safeguarding Adult and Children Practitioners
- Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
- Sexual Violence Liaison Officer
- Learning Disability Specialist Nurse
- Safeguarding Officer
- Mental Capacity Act Lead

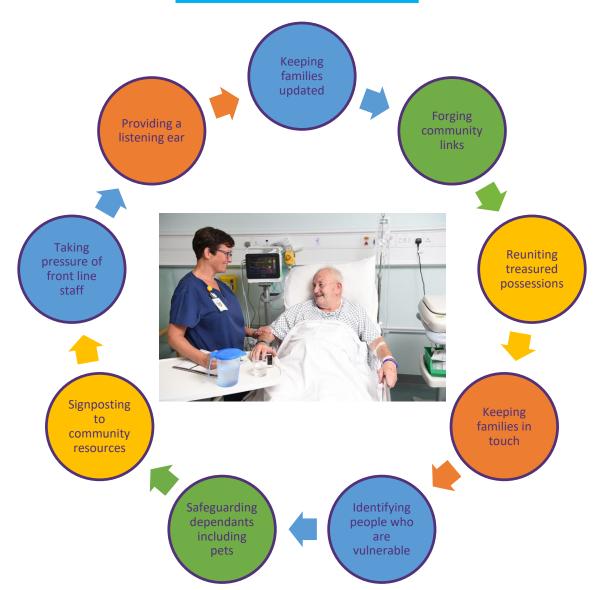


#### WHAT DID WE DO

- Dedicated phone line / email address
- Details circulated- Matrons, Switchboard, PALS, ELHT website, Security
- Posters circulated, Wards, Departments and Corridors
- Change of Rota 8am-6pm, 7 days a week service
- i-Pads to encourage communication
- Staff wearing Scrubs
- Database of all calls and responses









## **FEEDBACK**

- Thank you so much, you have put my mind at rest.
- It is the first time anyone has asked ME how I am.
- On behalf of all our family I would like to thank you most sincerely for giving us so much support at a time of sadness, worry and uncertainty. Just knowing you were there advocating made so much difference. We were able to establish good channels of communication with the ward because of you.



#### Next steps – next 4 weeks

- Sharing best practice with ICS / acute trusts
- BBC this week
- Hospital Radio
- Sharing best practice with Nightingale wards
- Regular communication to staff through shout out social media etc
- Memorial Ceremonies to be set up
- Bereavement support groups community based

## Strengths Based Approach



STRENGTHS MODEL APPROACH

#### STRENGTHS-BASED APPROACH

#### Individual strengths

Personal qualities

Abilities Talents Skills

Interests Aspirations

#### 8 inseparable areas of life

Daily living
Finances
Work/education
Social network
Recreation
Overall health
Sexuality
Spirituality

#### Environmental strengths

Resources

Social network

Opportunities

#### **Desired results**

- ✓ Better quality of life
- ✓ Personal accomplishments
- ✓ Recovery of power and social integration

## What matters to you?