



Urgent actions to address health inequalities in the NHS



Health Inequalities are unfair differences in the health some people have compared to other people, and between different groups and communities.



Coronavirus shows unacceptable **health inequalities** for different groups in the UK.



A letter was sent from a wider group to every NHS Organisation in England.

Read the full letter:

www.england.nhs.uk/publication/implementing-phase-3-of-the-nhs-response-to-the-covid-19-pandemic/



The letter says about **8 actions** needed to make health fairer.



1. Make plans to make sure that the people who are most likely to get poorly from coronavirus are able to get the care they need, including making sure that there is accessible information.



2. Getting services back to normal, as well as ensuring they are inclusive

Make sure services are used by those who need them. Including people living in the poorest neighbourhoods and people from Black and Asian communities.



3. Using online and face-to-face appointments to make sure than no one is left out. Online appointments may not be accessible for everyone. A review will be done to see who is using online appointments by March 31st 2021.



4. Bring forward plans to help people at greatest risk of poor health: Bringing forward plans for more accessible flu vaccinations and annual health checks for people with learning disabilities.



5. Make sure that there is support for people with mental health problems as services start to go back to normal.



6. Strengthen leadership

The NHS wants a person from every NHS Organisation whose job it is to make health fairer. They should be named by 21st September 2020.



7. Get better at collecting information, including finding out more about people who are most likely to get very poorly from coronavirus.



8. Work together locally to make plans for services to start to go back to normal. Plans to make sure that the most needed services are able to get back to normal should be made by 21st September 2020.

The local NHS are also asked to make sure they are:



Better at listening to communities.



Making stronger partnerships with local authorities and voluntary and community sector organisations.