

Brexit: what will this mean for the NHS?

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Brexit: Implications



- Supply of medicines, devices and other goods
- Workforce
- Reciprocal (cross-border) healthcare
- Research
- Data
- Business continuity planning
- Funding

Supply of medicines:

Delays to movement of goods for up to 6 months



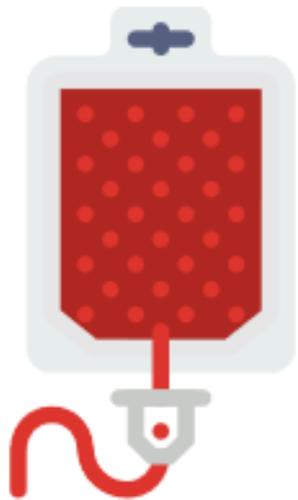
CONTINGENCY PLANS:

- Stockpiling by pharmaceutical companies
- Medicines prioritised at borders
- Increased freight capacity and alternate routes
- Serious shortage protocol for pharmacists

NHS ACTIONS:

- Do not stockpile
- Each CCG should agree “EU Exit medicines, prescribing and supply plan
- Coordinate with regional pharmacists and regional emergency planning staff

Supply of blood and blood products: The UK is largely self-sufficient for blood



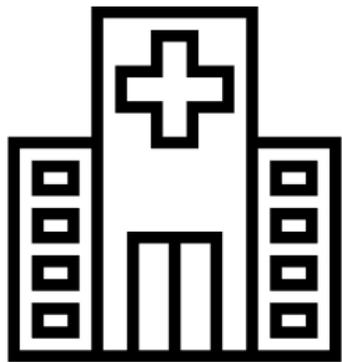
CONTINGENCY PLANS:

NHS Blood and Transplant working with the Human Tissue Authority (HTA), to get appropriate written agreements in place with EU organisations to allow organ exchange to continue after 29 March 2019.

NHS ACTIONS:

No specific action needed for transplant centres at this time.
Licensed UK establishments that import or export tissues or cells will need written agreements with relevant EU licensed establishments to continue doing so.

Supply of medical devices and consumables: Delays to movement of goods for up to 6 months



CONTINGENCY PLANS:

Clinical prioritisation exercise with Trusts

Stockpiling

Dedicated shipping channel

NHS ACTIONS:

Do not stockpile

Continue commercial preparation for EU Exit as part of usual resilience planning.

Workforce



CONTINGENCY PLANS:

EU nationals in the NHS to register for EU settled status (fee waived)

Workforce monitoring dashboard

Lots of thinking being done on international recruitment

Statutory Instrument on mutual recognition of professionals in progress

NHS ACTIONS:

Publicise the EU settled status scheme and support staff to access it

Understand your workforce, potential gaps, and explore solutions

Reciprocal (cross-border) healthcare

UK nationals may be limited in access to EU healthcare and EU citizens may have new charging models for NHS care



CONTINGENCY PLANS:

The Government seeks to put in place transitional and permanent bilateral agreements with EU, EEA and Switzerland to protect current reciprocal healthcare rights.

NHS ACTIONS:

Current arrangements for reciprocal healthcare and for overseas visitors and migrant cost recovery will continue to operate until 29 March 2019.

Look out for new guidance once Brexit agreements clearer; use existing guidance until then.

Research

UK will lose access to EU funding and European Reference Groups and new EU trials regulation will be implemented post-Brexit



CONTINGENCY PLANS:

UK government guarantees funding of EU-funded projects until 2020

NHS ACTIONS:

Liaise with trial and study sponsors to ensure continued supply of IMPs and medical devices which come from or via the EU or EEA.

Continue trial enrolments until 29 March

Data

UK will become a third country



CONTINGENCY PLANS:

Work is underway; practical guidance will be issued soon

NHS ACTIONS:

Review relevant government technical notice and ICO guidance

Business continuity planning



NHS ACTIONS:

Continue business continuity planning in line with your legal requirements under the Health and Social Care Act 2012

Include any potential increases in demand associated with wider impacts of a "no deal" exit, and locally-specific risks.

Impact on funding



- **Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR):** “A disorderly Brexit could have severe short-term implications for the economy, the exchange rate, asset prices and public finances. The scale would be very hard to predict, given the lack of precedent”
- **Some potential causes of increased costs:**
 - Decline in value of sterling (predicted: 9%)/exchange rates
 - No-deal supply chain contingency planning (e.g. alternative supply sources, additional warehousing and transport costs),
 - Building duplicate laboratories
 - Increased costs of complying with separate UK regulator

What the NHS Confederation is doing



Supporting healthcare as the UK leaves the EU



CALLING FOR:

- Regulatory alignment where possible
- Preserving reciprocal healthcare arrangements
- Robust coordination on public health
- Maximum levels of research and innovation
- Strong funding opportunities
- Transition support and communication for NHS

- A future immigration system which is responsive, agile and easy-to-use for both employers and those applying.
- Immigration system works for the economic interests of the UK and is agile to meet future labour needs.

Brexit EU Stakeholder Group



The Confederation's NHS European office also supports an alliance of EU health stakeholders lobbying the EU for a Brexit that does not harm patients.

Thank you

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