

### **Important update re secondary care**

In line with well-established plans, every hospital in England has now been asked to suspend all non-urgent elective operations and outpatient appointments, with some other procedures likely to be rescheduled to reduce spread and maximise the NHS's ability to manage the pandemic and meet the government's movement restrictions. People who are affected will be contacted by the relevant department as soon as possible.

Emergency cases and cancer treatments will be carrying on as normal, but we know many people waiting for treatment will be disappointed or worried. If you have been referred urgently to secondary care, including for suspected cancer, it is very important that you still attend these appointments. However, if you have symptoms of coronavirus or are self-isolating, please contact the relevant hospital department in advance via the telephone number on your appointment letter for their advice.

We are all facing an unprecedented and challenging time and this may make us feel anxious, fearful and helpless. This is completely understandable. You may be worried about how COVID-19 will impact on your wellbeing and that of your family and friends. The NHS Every Mind Matters campaign has expert advice and top tips on how to look after your mental wellbeing during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. It also includes guidance if you're feeling worried or anxious about the outbreak. Please visit: [www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/](http://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/).