Coronavirus (COVID-19) – information for children, young people and families from the Tracheal and Thoracic team

We understand that you might be worried about coronavirus – also known as COVID-19 – particularly if your child has a long-term health condition, such as tracheal stenosis or other thoracic conditions. This information sheet from the Tracheal and Thoracic team at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) sets out our advice for children and young people who use our services. Please read this alongside our general information about coronavirus (COVID-19) available online at **www.gosh.nhs.uk/news/coronavirus-covid-19-information-children-young-people-and-families**

Does COVID-19 affect children?

The evidence to date shows that although children do develop COVID-19 very few children will develop severe infection with COVID-19.

Children with tracheal or thoracic conditions and having undergone surgery are at risk for any viral disease, so precautions for vulnerable groups, as outlined in our general information sheet should be followed.

Your family should follow the guidance on social distancing unless advised otherwise by the clinical team. If you are unsure, email or phone your clinical team.
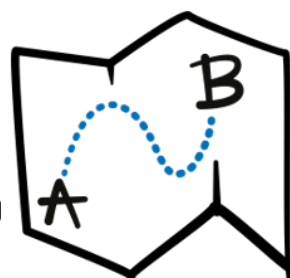
Specific advice about medicines from the Tracheal and Thoracic team

Taking your medication is very important and not taking it could make your condition worse. Please consult your specialty team before making any decisions regarding your medication.

Should we make alternative clinic appointments?

Clinicians are looking to remove the need for patients to attend face-to-face appointments wherever possible. This might involve to telephone appointments or exploring video consultations.

If your child has an upcoming clinic appointment, we will be in touch with you to discuss how we can best carry this out remotely.

Further information and support

Information from the NHS at www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

Information for children is available on the BBC Newsround website at www.bbc.co.uk/newsround