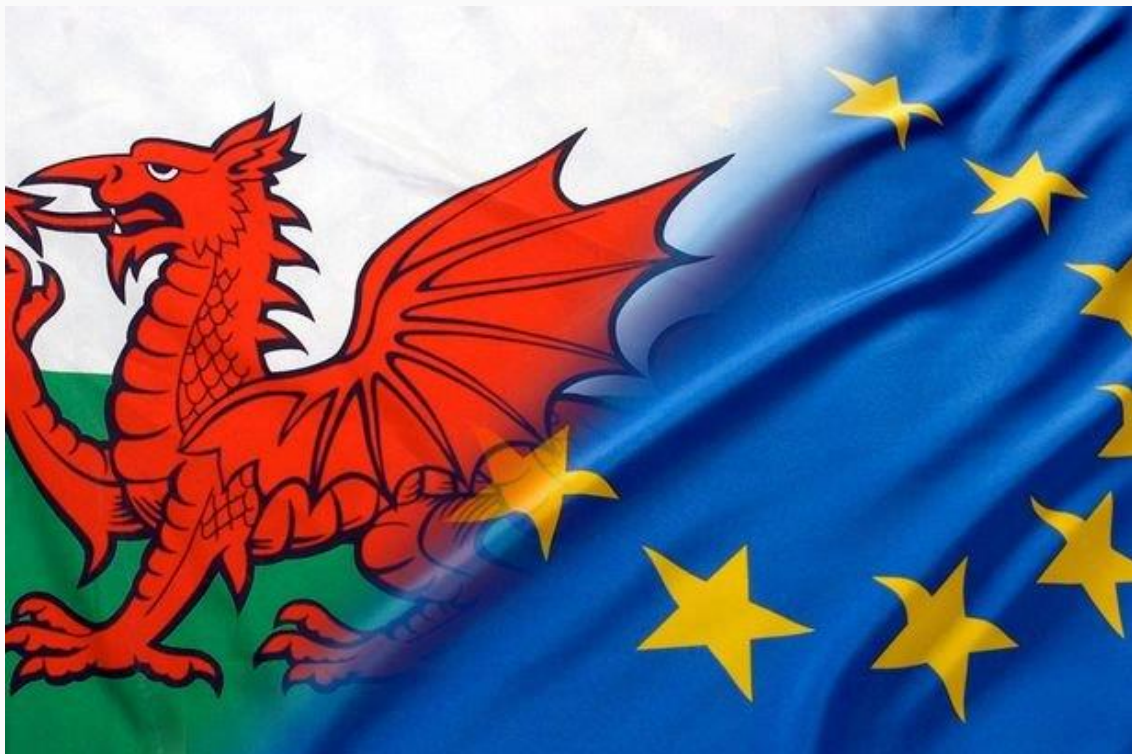


BREXIT AT A GLANCE...

Weekly news, views and insights from the Welsh NHS Confederation
Friday, 11 October



***Please cascade information where appropriate
to your workforce and care providers***

What Happened This Week...

With 20 days to go until Brexit, the count down continues. The week began with Parliament being progued until Queen's Speech, expected on Monday. This morning Michel Barnier and the Brexit secretary, Stephen Barclay, met to

discuss a possible “pathway to a deal”, with the EU’s chief negotiator under pressure to reopen negotiations in Brussels.

However, concerns over how a no-deal exit will affect health and social care persist. The UK Government published their [No-Deal Readiness Report](#). This document sets out what will change if we leave without a deal, and outlines what the UK Government is doing to get ready for Brexit on 31 October. The document explains some of the opportunities that Brexit may provide for health, including playing a world-leading role in health security, patient safety and medical advance; innovative regulation of novel advanced therapies and medicines; and a streamlined approach to clinical trial reporting.

Welsh Government also released their sixth Brexit Bulletin which focuses on medical devices and clinical consumables. A 90 second [video](#) of the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, Andrew Evans, has also been published and posters and [information materials](#) for the public around Brexit and their medicines has also been released.

Today Public Health Wales published an update of their Health Impact Assessment [report](#). The report discusses the possible real-life effects Brexit could have on people’s health and well-being in Wales, as the chance of a no-deal Brexit on 31 October has increased.

On Tuesday we attended a Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) stakeholder roundtable to discuss the call for evidence into the salary threshold of the Immigration White Paper and the potential for a points-based immigration system. During the meeting we emphasised how staff from the EU are vital to the NHS and social care, and we will do everything possible to make them feel valued and appreciated.

This week we also launched our short animation outlining the key issues for health and social care organisations in Wales as we head towards leaving the

EU.

For further information on preparing to leave the EU, please look at our [Brexit Preparedness Toolkit](#), which provides a summary of current no-deal preparations in Wales. There is also an additional [annex](#), with all the latest guidance from UK and Welsh Government's, which was updated on yesterday.

If you have any questions about the Brexit process, please see our [FAQs](#) page for more details which have been updated today, or email any questions to brexitfaqs@welshconfed.org. Please visit [our website](#) or our [twitter](#) for the latest information.

Nesta Lloyd-Jones,
Assistant Director, Welsh NHS Confederation



Welsh NHS Confed
@WelshConfed



Health and social care organisations in [#Wales](#) outlined their key issues as we head towards leaving the EU. This is the type of system we're working towards whatever the outcome of the [#brexit](#) negotiations: nhsconfed.org/resources/2019...



Welsh Government News and Guidance

Wales-Europe Relations: Eluned Morgan [announced](#) £320,000 to support initiatives that will help secure Wales' future relations with Europe post-Brexit. The funding comes from the EU Transition Fund and will go towards projects that will help secure existing relations in the fields of health, education, culture and science.

Continuity of Medicines Supply – [Information for patients and the public](#)

Continuing to be able access to medicines after the United Kingdom (UK)

leaves the European Union (EU) is a matter of great importance to patients and the public. The Welsh Government has been working with the UK Government and the pharmaceutical industry to ensure plans are in place to ensure the medicines people need are available in the event of a no deal EU exit. The Welsh Government's message to professionals and the public remains clear, 'keep doing what you've always done'.

In response to requests for patient facing messaging about the continuity of medicines in the event of a no-deal EU exit, the Welsh Government has produced the following products to communicate our key messages on how patients can help. These include:

- posters and a flyer for use in community pharmacies and other health and social care settings;
- FAQs for pharmacists and wider pharmacy team, GPs and practice staff to use should patients have further concerns; and
- FAQs for the public.

Downloadable copies of the poster and flyer are [here](#).

For further information, please see the [Preparing Wales for a no-deal Brexit](#) website and [click here](#) for more information on Health and Social Care sector planning for a no-deal Brexit.

National Assembly News

[External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee](#) – Monday, 7th
October

UK Government Brexit Proposals

Brexit Minister Jeremy Miles criticised the UK Government's unwillingness to share its 'non-papers', arguing that this is an important part of enabling the JMC (EN). Jeremy Miles said he would attend a JMC meeting this week and would make clear that the terms of reference with the JMC (EN) must be complied with. On the UK's latest proposals, the Minister said the UK Government is now seeking a far looser economic relationship with the EU than Theresa May's administration, warning that the Welsh Government understands that such a relationship would inflict greater economic damage on Wales.

Migration

Delyth Jewell focused on ID cards in the Welsh Government's '[A brighter future for Wales](#)' paper and on the impact a no-deal Brexit would have on Wales. Ms Jewell asked whether it is the Welsh Government's view that migration from the EEA is "uncontrolled". Mr Miles said this is a point of language, arguing that the document reflects '[Brexit and fair movement of people](#)', which Plaid Cymru supported. Mr Miles said the Welsh Government is not saying that migration is uncontrolled, stressing that the document focuses on the benefits of migration from the EU and the importance of ensuring EU citizens are welcomed and their rights preserved. The Brexit Minister made clear that the document does not advocate ID cards but talks about the range of alternatives that other countries use in the European Union.

EU Citizen's Rights

David Rees asked whether there has been any response to 'A Brighter Future for Wales' from the UK Government or Europe. Jeremy Miles said there has been no response so far but that he would be in Brussels on Tuesday, October 8 and the JMC (EN) on Thursday, October 10.

Jeremy Miles highlighted the Welsh Government's action around citizen's rights, noting support through Citizen's Advice and [Newfields Law](#), the immigration law service. He said the government has pushed for extra document scanning facilities and has supported the provision of assisted digital centres. He highlighted the launch of an online portal and the importance of ensuring vulnerable people can access support.

Plaid Cymru Conference 4th-5th October

The Party [agreed](#) an emergency motion on revoking Article 50 in event of a no-deal Brexit.

Brexit Events in Wales

- 14th October: [Brexit Business Readiness Event](#) in Cardiff
- 15th October: [Brexit Business Readiness Event](#) in Wrexham
- 7th November: "Trade, Health and Well-being Symposium" (in relation to Brexit), organised by the Wales Health Impact Assessment Unit. For more info and to register click [here](#)

Managing Brexit / EU withdrawal in health and social care in Wales: Frequently asked questions

Brexit Frequently Asked Questions

Visit the [FAQs page](#) to get the latest version as it's updated and send in any questions to BrexitFAQs@welshconfed.org

UK Government & NHS England Resources

Overview from Westminster

- Parliament was prorogued on Tuesday evening in anticipation of the Queen's speech on 14th October.
- The House of Commons Home Affairs Committee scrutinised the UK Government's preparations for Brexit at the border, with a particular focus on arrangements for Northern Ireland.
- Mr Johnson and Mr Varadkar held "detailed and constructive" talks for more than two hours on Thursday.

- Brexit Secretary Steve Barclay has met EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier in Brussels on Friday morning.

[No-Deal Readiness Report](#) – a comprehensive document which sets out what will change if we leave without a deal and outlines what the UK Government is doing to get ready for Brexit on 31 October. The key points are:

- The UK will continue to play a world-leading role in health security, patient safety and medical advance after Brexit. The opportunities that Brexit might provide may include innovative regulation of novel advanced therapies and medicines, and a streamlined approach to clinical trial reporting and conduct. These strengths in health research will be further supported by Fast Track visas for world-leading scientists.
- The rights of EU citizens and their family members will be protected under existing primary and secondary legislation. EU citizens will have continued access to domestic healthcare, education and benefits and ongoing recognition of professional qualifications. The EFTA agreements are also being implemented by existing legislation.
- The UK is taking a three-stranded approach to protecting the healthcare of UK nationals in the EU: communications with citizens; discussions with the EU and Member States; and contingency planning. On contingency planning for reciprocal healthcare, we legislated earlier in 2019 so that UK nationals in the middle of treatment over exit day will be covered for that course of treatment for up to one year.
- UK-insured people will continue to be eligible for NHS-funded treatment when visiting England, Scotland or Wales. Any UK national who returns to live in the UK (including Northern Ireland) will be eligible for NHS-funded treatment.

- If we leave without a deal, the UK would no longer be part of the European medicines regulatory network and the UK's Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) would take on the functions currently undertaken by the EU for medicines on the UK market.
- The UK plays a world-leading role in patient safety and care, and medical discovery and will continue to do so following departure from the EU. Working with devolved administrations, trade bodies, product suppliers and the health and care system in England, the UK Government has made detailed plans to help ensure the continued supply of critical goods and medical supplies.

Guidance

[Horizon 2020 funding after Brexit](#)

How Horizon 2020 funding will be affected. We've updated the page to provide clarity on UK coordination of Horizon 2020 projects after Brexit. **We've also confirmed the scope of the UK Government's commitment to ensure that all relevant UK bids to mono-beneficiary Horizon 2020 calls that are submitted before Brexit are assessed.**

[HMRC impact assessment for the movement of goods if the UK leaves the EU without a deal](#)

Leaving the EU without a negotiated settlement is not the UK government's preferred outcome, but it's essential that the UK is prepared for all possible eventualities on customs, VAT and excise arrangements. **HMRC has added the third edition of HMRC's impact assessment for the movement of goods if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.**

[MHRA guidance and publications about a possible no-deal Brexit](#)

Information about the regulation of medicines and medical devices if there is a

no-deal Brexit. **Added new Guideline on Paediatric Investigation Plans, waivers, deferrals and compliance check under the 'Medicines for children' heading.**

[Guideline on Paediatric Investigation Plans, waivers, deferrals and compliance check](#)

This guidance document from the MHRA provides information on the format and content of paediatric applications in the UK if there is a no-deal Brexit.

[Guidance on pharmacovigilance procedures in the event of a no-deal Brexit](#)

This guidance summarises our approach to pharmacovigilance in the event of no-deal Brexit. Major changes to content, **including two new sections (9 and 10).**

[Exporting active substances for medicines after Brexit](#)

How the 'Written Confirmation' process for active substances manufactured in the UK will be handled if there's a no-deal Brexit. **Updated the page title and summary to clarify that this guidance is about exporting active substances for medicines if there's a no-deal Brexit.**

[How Marketing Authorisation Applications referred under Article 29 will be handled after Brexit](#)

How the MHRA will assess Marketing Authorisation Applications (MAA) for medicines referred under Article 29 if there's a no-deal Brexit. **Updated page title and summary to clarify this is about Marketing Authorisation Applications for medicines referred under Article 29. The rest of the page has not changed.**

[How the MHRA will manage UK orphan medicinal products after Brexit](#)

The MHRA will review applications for orphan designation at the time of a marketing authorisation (MA) or variation application. **Updated page title and summary so it's clearer what the content covers. The rest of the page has**

not changed.

[Importing investigational medicinal products from approved countries after Brexit](#)

Importing investigational medicinal products for use in clinical trials if there's a no-deal Brexit. **Updated page title and summary to clarify that this guidance applies if there's a no-deal Brexit. The rest of the page has not changed.**

For further information please look on the [UK Government](#) Brexit page which provides information about EU Exit including the article 50 process, negotiations, and announcements about policy changes as a result of EU Exit, such as the [Prepare for EU Exit Campaign](#).

[NHS England](#) also has a Preparing for EU Exit page where you can find Guidance and correspondence, which includes [continuity of medicine supply frequently asked questions](#).

News and Reports

[The Public Health Implications of Brexit in Wales: A Health Impact Assessment Approach](#).

A new report looks at evidence that's emerged since January about the possible real-life effects Brexit could have on people's health and well-being in Wales, as the chance of a no-deal Brexit on 31 October has increased.

It finds the likelihood of positive impacts has remained relatively stable since a previous analysis in January. Meanwhile, the likelihood of some negative impacts, such as those relating to food standards or environmental regulations, has increased.

[Patients needing cataract surgery could face serious delays 'because of Brexit'](#)

Sight-saving cataract surgery in Wales would be at risk from a no deal Brexit because the lenses needed are supplied from Ireland, via Belgium, a leading doctor has warned.

['About that bus...?': In short supply this winter](#)

The government's ban on the so-called "parallel exporting" of certain medicines, starting with a list of 24 drugs, is well worth keeping very close tabs on for the whole NHS system this winter, says James Illman.

[NHS could lose thousands of staff under Brexit migration shake-up](#)

More than 60,000 international NHS workers could be at risk of deportation if the government was to tighten immigration rules and increase the salary threshold for visas for skilled workers, analysis by *HSJ* has revealed.

['Hoping to study or work in the UK? Guidance for international doctors and students'](#)

Provides a high-level overview of the sequence of steps students will need to take, such as applying for training, getting GMC registration, a visa and a job offer. Three separate pathways have been developed for:

- International medical students who wish to study at a UK medical school
- International medical graduates (non-EEA) who intend to come and work in the UK
- EEA (European Economic Area) doctors coming to work in the UK

Looking Ahead

Monday 14 October

- Queen's Speech

- 'Get ready for Brexit' business readiness event in Cardiff
- External Affairs Committee: Round table discussion with academics on the scrutiny of UK-wide common policy frameworks

Tuesday 15 October

- 'Get ready for Brexit' business readiness event in Wrexham
- First Minister's Questions
 - Carwyn Jones: What discussions about Brexit has the First Minister had with the UK Prime Minister over the last month?
- **House of Commons**
 - Exiting the European Union - Oral Evidence Session: *The progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal*

Wednesday 16 October

- Finance Committee:
 - **Mick Antoniw:** What discussions has the Minister had with the UK Government regarding the Shared Prosperity Fund?

Thursday 17 October

- Last scheduled meeting of the European Council, consisting of the heads of state of the EU, before the current UK exit date

Saturday 19 October

- Deadline in [the Benn Bill](#) by which the Prime Minister must ask for an extension of Article 50 – until 31 January 2020 – if the UK

Government has not secured Parliament's approval for no deal or passed a Withdrawal Agreement