To:健康委员会首席执行官
医疗总监
护理总监
治疗及卫生科学家总监

17 April 2020

尊敬的同事们，

4月12日，首席医疗官和首席护理官联合发布了一封信件，告知您有关发布有关于健康照护服务在威尔士的指引，旨在帮助在冠状病毒爆发期间做出决策。

您也被要求将该框架广泛传播，并确保它被提供支持和服务的NHS机构采用。为了方便参考，附上了该框架和部长的书面声明的链接:


最近，我们已了解到，有关注于残疾人和学习障碍社区在威尔士对临床脆弱性量表（CFS）的误用，以及“不尝试心肺复苏”（DNACPR）对COVID-19期间受治疗的个人的使用。

4月13日，威尔士残疾参考小组发布了一项声明，呼吁在威尔士目前的COVID-19疫情期间保障残疾人的权利。

该声明要求遵循一套原则，确保在治疗有残疾的个人时被遵循，并已收到1100多签名。该法律和原则与我们的框架中所反映的法律和原则是一致的。

There have also been concerns raised by the Older People's Commissioner (OPC) about the care and treatment options that will be available to older and vulnerable people, some of who have felt pressurised into signing DNACPR forms. These concerns were set out in a statement issued by the OPC on 6 April 2020: https://www.olderpeoplewales.com/en/news/news/20-04-06/Treatment_decisions_and_Do_Not_Attempt_CPR_Protecting_people_s_rights.aspx

We are not aware that DNACPR decisions are being made purely on the basis of an individual’s age, having a disability, learning disability, autism, mental illness or other condition. Nonetheless, we felt it important in such difficult and anxious times to provide some measure of reassurance to those individuals living with these conditions and their loved ones.

This letter seeks to ensure there is clarity around ethical decision making for people with any protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, including age, vulnerability, physical or learning disability, autism, other life-long illnesses or conditions such as cerebral palsy, enduring mental health conditions or substance misuse problem.

Age, disability or long term condition alone should never be a sole reason for issuing a DNACPR order against an individual’s wishes.

It remains essential that decisions are made on an individual and consultative basis with people. It is unacceptable for advance care plans, with or without DNACPR form completion to be applied to groups of people of any description. These decisions must continue to be made on an individual basis according to need and individual wishes.

NICE issued COVID-19 rapid guideline: critical care in adults - NICE guideline [NG159] on 20 March 2020 and updated 09 April 2020. The guideline specifically advises that the Rockwood Clinical Frailty Scale (CFS) is not validated in, and should not be used in younger people, people with stable long-term disabilities (for example, cerebral palsy), learning disabilities or autism. An individualised assessment is recommended in all cases to consider comorbidities and underlying health conditions.
This letter will be circulated widely to our 3rd Sector partners and issued in an easy read format.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Frank Atherton
Chief Medical Officer
Welsh Government

Professor Jean White CBE
Chief Nursing Officer
Welsh Government