

## PRESS RELEASE

19 March 2018

### Know where to go to find the right healthcare this Easter

Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group is advising people to be prepared so they know where to go for healthcare advice and treatment over the Easter bank holiday; helping them to access the right service at the right time according to their needs.

Dr Richard Sandford-Hill, Chair of Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group said, "Easter is a great time to get out and about with friends and family, particularly if the weather is good, and no-one wants illness or injury to affect their plans. We're encouraging people to be well-prepared ahead of the bank holiday and know where to go to access the right healthcare that you might need.

To help with this Wiltshire CCG has an easy to use 'Around the clock healthcare leaflet' available to download from our website: <http://www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk/>

Bank holidays are extremely busy times for the NHS and we are asking people in Wiltshire to use our local services wisely this Easter so that our emergency services, such as 999, are available for those who need them most.

### Healthcare services in Wiltshire

Pharmacists - are experts on medicines and how they work. They can also offer advice on common complaints such as coughs, colds, aches and pains and other health issues and help to decide whether it's necessary to see a doctor. Find your nearest pharmacy by visiting [www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk](http://www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk)

Minor Injuries Units - are for patients with less serious injuries, such as sprains, cuts and grazes. No appointments are required and they are led by qualified nurse practitioners. For MIU opening times in Chippenham and Trowbridge visit <http://www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk/>

Salisbury walk-in centre - open from 6.30pm until 10pm week days, and 8am until 8pm weekends including bank holidays. The centre is run by a team of experienced doctors and nurses and is based on a first come first served basis, unless someone is acutely unwell and needs immediate attention. For details on how to find the Salisbury walk-in centre visit <http://www.salisburywalkincentre.co.uk>.

NHS 111 - available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and calls are free from landlines and mobiles. It is staffed by a team of fully trained advisers, supported by experienced clinicians.

Interim Chief Officer: Linda Prosser | Chair: Dr Richard Sandford-Hill

NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group | Southgate House | Pans Lane | Devizes | SN10 5EQ

Healthcare advice can be given over the telephone, or you may be directed to a local service if appropriate.

For life threatening situations serious injuries, loss of consciousness, chest pain or suspected stroke you should always call 999.

Dr Sandford-Hill continues, “We also strongly recommend that people check that they have enough of their routine medication to see them through the four day weekend. If you need to order more, it is advisable to request it well in advance of the bank holiday to ensure that you receive it in time.”

ENDS

**Notes for Editors:**

- Image included: Around the clock healthcare in Wiltshire
- Image caption – Healthcare services available around the clock in Wiltshire
- Dr Richard Sandford-Hill is available for interviews on Thursday 22 March between 4 – 4.30pm and on Thursday 29 March between 2.30 – 2.30pm.
- NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is the commissioner of health care services for the population of Wiltshire. The CCG is led by local GPs who have first-hand experience of what their patients need.
- The CCG consists of 49 GP member practices and works closely with local partners including Wiltshire Council, local NHS providers, patients and the public to manage existing NHS services and implement new services to ensure that high quality health and social care is delivered to the population as close to their home as possible. Further information can be found on the website [www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk](http://www.wiltshireccg.nhs.uk)

**Further information:**

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