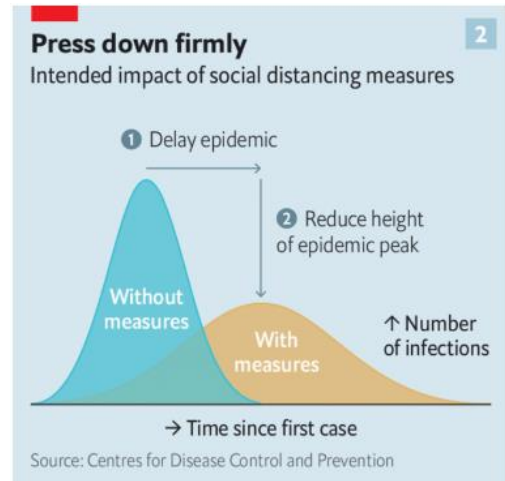


Covid19 - Slow the spread

You will all be aware of the spread of the Covid19 virus. Some of you I am sure are worried about family and friends, which is understandable; I am also. We need to work together as a community to get through the challenge. That challenge for us is both personal in our community but also about how we play our part in the wider healthcare sector and society's response to the virus.

The virus will become more widespread, that is certain. The government's efforts to contain it are currently focussed around reducing the peak of infections to enable the NHS to better cope with those who fall seriously ill. Slowing the spread may also move the peak into the late Spring or maybe early Summer when its ability to spread in drier warmer times will be reduced. There will also be more time to prepare. The graph usefully shows how this works.

So what is our job in this? While we support each other in shifting our own peak infection rate, we also need to maintain our capacity as best we can. Every dose Bath ASU cannot make is a patient's treatment falling back on NHS resources that are needed elsewhere. Every Pharmaxo patient not treated may send them back to an NHS hospital. The more that we can do, the better the NHS is equipped to focus on treating the worst affected of ourselves and our neighbours.



The Economist

What are we doing?

Take-home packs

Alison and Elaine in Pharmaxo are currently looking at take-home packs of hand sanitiser, etc. They will be available shortly; they may need some volunteers to put them together. This pack will include the latest posters and materials for you to help explain to your family the sorts of things you can do to slow the spread. Hand cleaning and surface cleansing more often are key. The good news is that we are well trained, the advice is basically an extension of good cleanroom / clinical practice.

Think about whether you used cash to buy a sandwich on the way to work; cashless might be better. Maybe use a paper towel or glove to hold the petrol pump. Don't get paranoid. Just think about these sorts of adjustments.

Follow advice

The NHS is running a webpage that is updated as more knowledge and understanding is developed.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

There are links there to travel advice. Read the advice and follow it. Think carefully about where you are travelling to.

There is useful info about symptoms, etc., and what to do, it would be good to talk your families through it. We have clinical staff (nurses, pharmacists, etc.) in Pharmaxo so if you don't understand something, then ask.

Planning

We have been monitoring supply chains for some time now. Our management teams are currently considering scenarios where we have significantly reduced numbers of people in teams. This will certainly include people working temporarily in alternative roles and maybe across group companies. You'll hear more about this soon.

Increased controls

Andrew Davies in Microgenetics is currently looking at additional controls around who can and cannot access our premises. As an example, measures are likely to include some level of hand sanitisation prior to entering buildings. We'll all need to cooperate with these procedures for them to be effective. Martyn Smith will be considering adjusted cleaning regimes in the support areas as part of slowing the spread, again think about your part in that.

Stuart Kotchie and our Programme Team will be supporting us in coordinating these efforts.

Working together, we can remain a place Where patients come first and at the same time deliver on Our commitment to you – Our community.