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14th October, 2020

**PRINCIPLE TRIAL OXFORD**

Diabetes specialist Nurses (DSNs) play a vital part in reducing the risk of COVID19 and signposting effectively for those living with diabetes during the pandemic. We know that there are many high risk groups for COVID19, including those from BAME backgrounds, those with a high BMI, and the elderly. In addition, in people with diabetes it can cause more severe symptoms and complications.

Covid19 pandemic has proven that people with all types of diabetes are known to be at a higher risk of having complications if they are infected with COVID19. Therefore DSNs have worked incredibly hard throughout the pandemic to ensure that people with diabetes are equipped with the knowledge they need to stay safe at home.

Diabetes specialists have been at the forefront of signposting and keeping people living with diabetes safe and well at home, as well as using new ways of caring for those with acute complications, that are hospitalised. Working closely with these groups of people, across all care settings, means that we can play a hugely important role in supporting pharmacist Professor Mahendra Patel and the team at Oxford with the PRINCIPLE trial; the urgent and public health trial for the treatment of COVID19 in these vulnerable risk groups.

This trial is hugely important, and we are keen to be able to help raise its awareness and encourage those who may be eligible to consider taking part through our wider network. We will be sharing the details of the PRINCIPLE Trial to all diabetes specialists, such as nursing staff, podiatrists, pharmacists, midwives and our medical colleagues.

The DSN Forum UK team are delighted to be able to support and work with the PRINCIPLE Team.

Yours sincerely,



Amanda Epps, DSN, Rainham PCN & Medway NHS Foundation Trust Bethany Kelly, DSN, Southampton City

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