

xxxxxxx@[wales.nhs.uk](mailto:xxxxxxx@wales.nhs.uk)

Direct Line: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Fax: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
E-mail: xxxxxxxxxxx@gov.wales

Eich cyf / Your ref
Ein cyf / Our ref 28793

31/07/20

Dear xxxxxxxx

RE: Safety of staff and patients during COVID-19 outbreak at Wrexham Maelor Hospital

I write in relation to concerns that have been brought to the attention of Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW). These concerns relate to the current Covid-19 outbreak being experienced mainly at Wrexham Maelor Hospital.

The concerns raised are as follows:-

1. Testing of staff – we have been informed that staff have stated that the health board had de-escalated a number of Covid-19 units prior to the current surge in Covid-19 positive patients, and at that time staff were redeployed to Covid-19 free wards without being tested. Please provide information about the steps the health board are taking to minimise the risk of staff transmission of Covid-19.
2. Delays in test results - A **XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX** who was admitted to Wrexham Maelor Hospital on Thursday 23rd July 2020, and discharged on Saturday 25th July 2020 reported being swabbed for Covid-19 within 3 hours of admission, but didn't receive a telephone call advising that the test result was negative until Sunday 26th July 2020. . Please provide information about the provision of Covid-19 test results and how this informs clinical decision making.
3. Mixing Covid-19 and non Covid-19 on wards – it has been alleged that – Covid-19 positive and non-Covid-19 patients are mixed together on Morris Ward.
4. Movement of patients between wards - It is alleged that there is an increase in patients being moved around to different wards, and this is causing distress to patients who do not

have Covid-19. Please provide assurance that suspected and confirmed Covid-19 patients are isolated from patients who do not have Covid-19.

5. Please provide information in relation to the current Hospital Acquired Infection rates at Wrexham Maelor and provide assurance about the actions being taken by the Health Board.

HIW requires immediate assurances around these issues. Please provide a response by no later than 07/08/2020

Yours sincerely

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Senior Healthcare Inspector

Cc: xxxxxxxxxxxx (Medical Director): xxxxxxxxxxxx@wales.nhs.uk
xxxxxxxxxxxx (Director of Nursing): xxxxxxxxxxxx@wales.nhs.uk