

**For the attention of participating countries in the U17 Champs Event :**

**Ebbw Vale 6th-8th March 2020**

* We are continuing to take medical and government advice for the COVID-19
* This event will NOT be cancelled unless we receive Medical / Government instructions.
* However we would advise all teams, officials and spectators to continue to follow the advice on the Public Health UK website.
* <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

**For your information please find below a more detailed**

**COVID-19 – Update**

* Those who have travelled recently should take the following advice

1. **Category 1 Areas :** Wuhan City and Hubei Province, Iran, Daeguor Cheongdo, any Italian town under containment measure . Travellers should self-isolate, even if asymptomatic, and use the 111 service to find out what to do next. Go home or to your destination and then self isolate.
2. **Category 2 Areas :** Cambodia, China (refer to Public Health UK Website map ) Hongkong, Italy : North(refer to Public Health UK Website map ) Japan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Myanmar, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. Travellers do not need to undertake any special measures, but if they develop symptoms they should self-isolate and call NHS 111.

The guidance for Italy, Iran, Daegu or Cheongdo (Republic of Korea), Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia and Vietnam applies to individuals who returned from these specific areas on or after 19 February 2020.

**Strategies to Minimise Risk

It should be stressed that the risk to people who have not travelled to or come into contact with people from infected areas remains low. However, there is good practice we are taking in order to reduce risk at the U17 Netball Europe Events:**

* It is vital that the Squads Managers follow the guidance and restrict travel of any player or support staff if they fall into the above categories
* Umpires, UAPs and Netball Europe officials follow the guidance and restrict their travel if they fall into the above categories
* If you have been in contact with someone with coronavirus or have returned from an area mentioned above and identified by the Chief Medical Officer as high risk and you are feeling unwell with a cough, difficulty breathing or fever, stay at home and use the NHS 111 online Coronavirus service or call NHS 111.
* Wash your hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using soap and hot water, particularly after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose, or after being in public areas where other people are doing so. Use hand sanitiser if that’s all you have access to.
* To reduce the spread of germs when you cough or sneeze, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, or your sleeve (not your hands) if you don’t have a tissue, and throw the tissue away immediately. Then wash your hands or use a hand sanitising gel.
* Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces using your regular cleaning products to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.

At the current time and based on our understanding of what is known of COVID-19 and other similar respiratory viruses, it is likely that older people and those with chronic medical conditions may be vulnerable to severe disease. As more information emerges, recommendations may change.

Thank you for your support in this constantly evolving situation.

Maggie Jackson

NE Technical Director