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Notes:

Questions marked thus **[R]** indicate that a relevant interest has been declared.

Questions with identification numbers of **900000 or greater** indicate that the question was originally tabled as an oral question and has since been unstarred.

ANSWERS

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

■ Arthritis: Medical Treatments

Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi: [\[115007\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, pursuant to the Answer of 3 November 2020 to Question 103607 on Arthritis: Medical Treatments, whether his Department plans to make an assessment of the effect of the covid-19 outbreak on the treatment of arthritis.

Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi: [\[115008\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, pursuant to the Answer of 3 November 2020 to Question 103607 on Arthritis: Medical Treatments, for what reason they have not made that assessment.

Edward Argar:

[Holding answer 17 November 2020]: While no specific assessment was made, NHS England and NHS Improvement rapidly convened a COVID-19 musculoskeletal (MSK) stakeholder group at the beginning of the pandemic, led by the MSK National Clinical Director, and involving a range of professional, charity and patient groups including the Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Alliance (ARMA) and Versus Arthritis. This led to the development of a self-management resource for patients, including those with arthritis, in managing their condition at home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NHS England and NHS Improvement continue to collaborate with ARMA and Versus Arthritis, as well as other key stakeholders, to provide guidance, support and communication to the National Health Service for people with arthritis, both in the current context of the pandemic and in the restoration of services. This collaboration recently led to a rapid assessment of the challenges experienced by patients with arthritis during the pandemic.

■ Members: Coronavirus

Mr John Baron: [\[128877\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, when he plans to respond to the letters of 16 October and 13 and 25 November 2020 from the hon Member for Basildon and Billericay on a constituent with reference JB29486.

Edward Argar:

[Holding answer 17 December 2020]: We are working to provide all Members and external correspondents with accurate answers to their correspondence, as well as supporting the Government's response to the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The hon. Member's letter will be answered as soon as possible.

■ Mental Health: Care Leavers**Julian Knight:**[\[126896\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what data is available on mental health outcomes for care leavers.

Julian Knight:[\[126897\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what plans the NHS has to improve its monitoring of the mental health outcomes of care leavers.

Ms Nadine Dorries:

National data on mental health outcomes for care leavers is not currently available. NHS England and NHS Improvement are carrying out exploratory work to include data on care leavers in the Mental Health Outcomes programme. In order to better understand outcomes for children and young people, including care leavers, NHS England is also working with children and young people's mental health services to drive the use of outcome measures and flow of this data to its national data set.