Twitter Thread by Vicky Blake UCU President Join A Union■■■■■■■■



Vicky Blake UCU President Join A Union■■■■■■■■
@zenscara

LIVE NOW

On the need for urgent decisions & a comprehensive set of measures *today*

"Delayed and tentative decision making will result in the deaths of tens of thousands more people"

Getting worse: several more thousand people in hospital than at April peak: no's still rising

> NEW: Independent SAGE has prepared an emergency statement & plan & is hosting a press conference tomorrow, 10am. Please join us. We believe we are at the most critical moment of the crisis so far. Only by acting NOW can we avoid 10s of 1000s of deathshttps://t.co/pTOseECKvM
>
> — Independent SAGE (@IndependentSage) December 29, 2020

Cases in *all* regions are going up, reflected in hospital admissions.

Every region except NE and NW have more people in hospital than during the first wave.

We don't yet know if tier 4 is enough to slow or contain covid.

The impact of Xmas mixing is still to come.

Schools will contribute to increasing transmission rate - @IndependentSage chair notes their nuanced position on schools + happy to take questions.

Indy SAGE calling for lockdown AND clear plan for exit from such a lockdown. Calling for proper support for testing + isolation

Vaccination rollout programmes vital - including international support

The impact of long covid also identified alongside horrific scale of death is part of the catastrophe we need to prevent unfolding further

.@IndependentSage highlighting the unbelievable pressure on NHS staff across the UK.

Given the scenes at hospitals around the UK, we cannot afford to underestimate the seriousness of this for everyone

On vaccines: waiting on data for whether the mutations being found will affect their efficacy. Strategy being outlined today intended to support an efficient and effective vaccination programme (including room to address further development required)