

Update on Sandyford Services March 2022 – for attention of Primary Care providers

We have started to recover the service slightly but are still working towards 'normality'. We continue to be limited in accommodation at certain sites for service provision as below:

5 days a week: **Sandyford Central, Renfrewshire** (New Sneddon St) and **East** (Parkhead H C)

1 day a week (Thursday) in **Clydebank** (Clydebank Health Centre) - LARC, STI testing, then YP service

2 days a week in **Govanhill** Mondays and Fridays (as of Monday 7th March) - LARC, STI testing, then YP on Monday evening

1 day a week in **Greenock** on Wednesday - LARC, STI testing

Port Glasgow – Tuesday evening YP service

Professional support and advice available via ggc.sandyfordprofessionalsupport@nhs.scot for all STI/contraception queries and via ggc.menopausesupport@nhs.scot for all menopause related queries. Sandyford website professional section has accessible clinical protocols: <https://www.sandyford.scot/professionals/clinical-guidance/>

Clinical Services Update

Emergency contraception: Oral EC or emergency coil insertion is available at the 3 main sites with urgent access (<48 hours but with telephone triage to assess appointment time requirement). Oral EC is available in community pharmacies,

New start or continuation long-acting reversible contraception (LARC): Coil and implant fitting appointments available. Appointments can be booked on line via Sandyford website or telephone. Due to unpredictable COVID related staff absences these appointments are not available to be booked far in advance and we advise people to check website regularly and book online. If there are no online appointments available, there will be no appointments via phone either. Appointments can be booked via phone for those without online access. There is no facility for LARC waiting lists.

Deep implant removals have recommenced with referrals being placed on a waiting list.

New start or continuation non-LARC: We continue to have requests for this from patients who have never accessed Sandyford services previously. There is no facility for repeat prescriptions or direct to community pharmacy so these virtual consultations require significant staff resource, taken from other parts of the service. For requests for CHC (oral, patch, ring), if there is no recorded BP/BMI within the past year, we will only issue the progesterone only pill. We have some face to face appointments for Depoprovera/Sayana Press. Again, due to limitations on staffing, these cannot be booked far in advance.

STI/BBV testing: Testing has always been available for those with symptoms. Testing for those without symptoms is available via the website for home self-sampling (external contractor) but only until end of March or appointments within Sandyford (or via phone if unable to use online booking).

STI management: We provide both face to face and virtual rapid access care (<48 hours) for patients with urgent and/or clinically significant STIs and patients with vulnerabilities. We are seeing a rise in STI diagnoses, with the highest positive Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea rates since pre-pandemic, and therefore a rise in demand for management. We work closely with WoSSVC to develop improved STI testing for Gonorrhoea and Mycoplasma Genitalium with rapid

antibiotic sensitivity tests to allow for faster treatment and more treatment options eg oral antibiotics with remote management.

Abortion Care: We are experiencing unprecedented demand for abortion services, with an increase in numbers but also reduced service for surgical and medication abortions in acute services across GGC. This requires a high level of medical staff resource and we offer full abortion care management with telemedicine and home abortions, including home delivery of medications. Face to face appointments remain for those who require it and for post abortion LARC. Patients can call directly for a telephone consultation 0141 211 8620.

Vasectomy counselling and procedures: Vasectomy procedures have restarted with increased capacity and we are currently working through a large waiting list. We will hold both self-referrals and GP referrals in a waiting list. Current wait time from referral to operation is approximately 9 months.

Gynaecology/Complex Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare (SRH): Service restarted at full capacity but large increase in demand with referrals x3 previous. Current predicted wait is **8 months** for a routine appointment. All GP referrals must be via SCI Gateway and will be held in a waiting list. Patients may be sent an 'opt-in' letter or contacted to see if they still need an appointment as some have been referred to both acute Gynae and cSRH services.

Menopause: Majority of referrals are dealt with by email advice to GP or telephone call to patient. Face to face appointments available for those requiring urgent assessment eg postmenopausal bleed, requiring endometrial biopsy or IUS change/insertion. Email advice available as above.

Complex Genitourinary Medicine: Available but reduced due to significant reduction in staffing. Current wait approximately 3 months for conditions within the scope of the service. There is no genital dermatology service currently provided.

Genital Warts: A nurse led GW service will commence in April 22. There is a waiting list for cryotherapy treatment and we do not currently have an accurate wait time for this service. We continue to recommend topical treatment in the community is trialled first line (see protocol on website or options outline on the reply letters to SCI gateway referrals).

HIV Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP): Full service provided with mostly virtual management.

HIV PEPSE: Full face to face service provided with urgent appointment (same day)

Other service queries we have received:

Sexual Problems Service: Due to staffing pressures and increase in demand, current waitlist is 8 months. Accepting GP and self referral for patients within GGC.

Counselling services (SCASS): This service has a very long waiting list currently and is about to undergo a service review to address this. It currently accepts referrals in relation to problems forming healthy sexual relationships or time urgent referrals from within our services e.g. from TOPAR service.

Colposcopy : This service will be stopping in Sandyford in June 22, with all colposcopy services being within acute services. Referrals for colposcopy in Sandyford from this month will be redirected. Please note there is no service for routine cervical screening within Sandyford.