

**GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED** 

# **COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 7**

15th May 2020

### To All GPs and GP Practices

As we approach the tenth week of Covid escalation, we look back at all the changes to our working and home lives since March. Practices adapted incredibly quickly to the pandemic and for many practices, these new ways of working have now bedded in well and are part of the normal practice working.

We thank GPs and practice staff for their continuing hard work and dedication in keeping practices open and providing the vital GP service to patients and their families.

### PPE- Eye Protection

GP practices were made aware on Monday of the immediate withdrawn of the Tiger Eyewear product for PPE use. The LMC urgently made representation to the Board that many practices were left without any alternative eye protection. Emergencies supplies were made available to practices early in the week. We understand that further supplies for PPE have now been delivered to all practices. It is vital that GPs and practice staff have the necessary PPE to safely care for patients. We would like to hear from you if you are still having difficulties with PPE supplies- email <u>admin@glasgow-lmc.co.uk</u>

# LMC Year End and Covid-19 Meetings

In total, we had over 300 GPs and practice managers attending our three Zoom meetings for practices and one for Sessional GPs over the past 2 weeks. We hope you found the updates on the current Covid GP response, the community pathway and IT helpful as well as the Questions and Answers section. Dr John Ip's IT presentation is now available to view on <u>YouTube</u>. A big thank you to all our GP and practice manager colleagues who logged in and participated in the meetings.

### Self-referral to testing for GGC health and social care staff

GPs and practice staff can now arrange testing directly, for either themselves, or household members with symptoms (first 5 days of fever of  $\geq$ 37.8 C or new persistent cough), using the self-referral e-form. <u>Staff Testing Self-Referral Form</u>

Whilst GPs and staff are waiting for the appointment and test results, it is important that they and household contacts follow the guidance on self-isolation on the <u>NHS Inform website</u>.

<u>Further GGC guidance</u> is available on what do to when you receive your results.

#### Shielding Update

The Chief Medical Officer and NHSGGC wrote to practices this week updating the national Shielding process. People receiving renal dialysis treatment and people who have had their spleens removed are now advised to shield. These groups of patients have been identified from national registries and hospital data. Practices' Shielding search has been updated for splenectomy patients. Practices have been asked to re-run the EScro search, review the list and forward the CHIs for all their splenectomy shielding to group to COVIDShielding@ggc.scot.nhs.uk by Wednesday 20th May.

This latest update brings Scotland's Shielding process and group in line with the rest of the UK.

#### Death in Service Announcement

The BMA and Scottish Government have reached agreement on Death in Service and association pension benefits. The arrangements cover doctors who are outside the NHS pension scheme and will help address the issue of GP locums, bank staff, and those with less than 2 years' of qualifying service. The full details of the scheme are <u>here on the SPPA website</u>. The <u>BMA statement from Lewis Morrison is here</u>.

#### LMC Business

We are have having a full LMC and GP subcommittee virtual meeting on Monday 18th May where we will be welcoming a few new members to the Committee - Drs Helen Fox, Ruth Gibson, Mohammed Khan and Austin Nichol. Congratulations and we look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

We like to acknowledge those members who are leaving the committee- Drs John Dempster, Michael Haughney, Andrew Fitchett, Paul Miller, Alan Petrie, Paul Ryan, Mohammed Sharif, and Blair Walker. A big thank you for all the work and expertise that you have given to the committee and wish you all the very best.

#### And Finally

For those who may have missed the latest episode of Who Wants to be a Millionaire, a wee spoiler... Dr Andrew Townsley won £500,000 answering 14 questions correctly just narrowly missing out on the top prize. Andrew is a retired Easterhouse GP and former long serving LMC member. A massive well done to Andrew! We are all so proud of you!

With warm regards and all best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely,

alan Mc Dout

Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E. Chair

yuy

**Dr John Ip** Medical Director

for house the

**Dr Patricia Moultrie** Medical Director

Ham Fingled

Mary Fingland Business. Coordinator

# LMC Weekly Document Highlight List

Please be aware that this is NOT a comprehensive list of all the available guidance that has been sent to GPs. These are the current key documents which we feel are important to GP practices. Please make sure that your practice's generic NHSmail box is monitored daily.

# The GP Advice Deck. [INFORMATION: NO CHANGE SINCE LAST COMMUNICATION]

Guidance developed by the Covid-19 Primary Care Clinical Advisory Group (Updated 27th April 2020 with new Child Triage advice):

- Advice 1. Triage Pathway
- <u>Advice 2. Cleaning Advice</u>
- <u>Advice 3. Practice Respiratory Appointment</u>
- <u>Advice 4. Home Visits</u>
- <u>Advice 5. Child Triage</u>
- <u>Advice 6. Practice Clinical Distancing for examination</u>

Update on the Shielding group letters (sent on 14 May 2020)

- <u>CMO Update Letter to GPs May 2020 Final CMO</u>
- <u>NHSGGC GP Shielding Update 13 May</u>
- Patients CMO letter for local use 7 May

Testing for New Admissions to Care Homes- letter from GGC Director of Public Health

<u>Testing of New Admissions Letter</u>

The Covid Testing Pathways and advice for handling of Covid Test Results

- <u>Summary of testing pathways Final version 12.5.20</u>
- <u>Draft 3 Pathway Testing 120520</u> (Care Home residents and staff, Admission, Outbreak)

The Joint Statement on Death Certification from CQC, GMC and HIS

GGC Care Homes Protocol for Supply of Palliative Care meds without a prescription

- <u>Covid 19 S247 PART B CH protocol PC medicinesV2.0</u>
- Website FAQ Access to PC meds in care homes final

NHSGGC Paper- Community Nursing Response to Covid 19

• Final V Community Nursing response to Covid 19 final (3)

Scottish Government letter on Mental Health & Wellbeing Support for NHS and Social Care workforce and unpaid carers

• <u>Wellbeing Hub stakeholder letter - 11.05.20</u>