



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED



COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 44

10th December 2021

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome our Christmas LMC newsletter. Thank you again to GPs and practice teams for continuing to provide high quality GP services to patients despite all the workload and workforce challenges being faced. The new Omicron variant is an increasing concern for all of us, and we have seen governments across the UK stepping up their guidance, and covid rules for the public. The next few weeks will be crucial in seeing how the new variant will impact on the NHS and whether further restriction will be put in place.

There has been a flurry of updated guidance and announcements from the Board and Scottish Government. We hope these newsletters are useful for GPs and practice staff in keeping up to date with these developments.

Covid Community Pathway

As we said in our last newsletter, there has been a review of the Community Pathway. The GP subcommittee has been involved in the development of the guidance. The new GP Advice Deck was released on 1st December and covers updated guidance on the under 12s, home visiting, and some aspects of the adult pathway.

- [Covid Community Pathway Update and Changes](#)
- [COVID19GP1AdviceTriagePathv26](#)
- [COVID19GP2AdviceCleaningAdvicev6](#)
- [COVID19GP4AdviceHomeVisitv9](#)
- [COVID19GP5AdviceCHILDTriagePathv18](#)
- [COVID19GP7AdviceGP Covid Assessment Appointment Pathwayv4](#)
- [COVID19GP10Covid-19Pathway Winter2021 v3](#)
- [COVID-19BudesonidePathv1](#)

Winter Respiratory Guidance

The Scottish Government issued the updated Winter Respiratory Guidance to GP practices on 8th December 2021. The information pack (links are in the Highlight document list) includes an FAQ document for GP practices around the implementation of the new guidance.

The guidance comes into effect on **Monday 13th December**. The LMC and SGPC have continued to express deep concerns around the impact of the new guidance on GP practices, as well as on patient access and flows. We have asked Scottish Government to communicate to the public about the changes and the effect that it will have on GP access. We have also called on government to ensure that the Community Pathway is maintained to ensure that patients with Covid or at risk of Covid are seen by the CACs.

Scottish GP Practices Sustainability Payment

The government announced £30m for GP practices to fund 2 tranches of Sustainability payments- in December 2021 and April 2022. The payment aims to help practices with additional costs for GP, other clinical, and admin staff time to manage workload and staffing pressures. It also covers the Transitional arrangements / payments agreed in the [MOU2 document](#) in July.

The combined payments will be approximately £5 per patient. It is important that practices return the claim form to the Board so that payment can be made promptly.

Scottish LMC Conference

The Conference took place virtually on Friday 3rd December. Representatives heard from the Cabinet Secretary Humza Yousaf the Scottish Government's commitment to full implementation of the 2018 GP Contract. The Conference supported calls for zero tolerance for abusive behaviour, and immediate removal for abusive and threatening patients. There was also strong support for all historic funding streams such as enhanced services and TR payment be uplifted annually.

GMC Statement on support for staff

We welcome the [statement](#) that has been issued by the GMC, along with a number of other health and social care professionals' regulators, in which it is stated:

“As registered professionals, the first concern of the individuals on our registers will be the care of their patients and people who use health and social care services. We encourage health and social care professionals, working in partnership with each other and people using services, to use their professional judgement to assess risk and to deliver safe care informed by any relevant guidance and the values and principles set out in their professional standards.”

Wellbeing Resources

The cumulative stress of the pandemic, the workload pressures, and patient demand is undoubtedly affecting people's mental health. We know that practice leadership, and a supportive and valuing culture in general practices is vital in maintaining the wellbeing of the practice team. These are some of the wellbeing resources available to GPs, PMs and practice staff-

National Wellbeing Hub- www.promis.scot

NHS GGC Occupational Health Service-

<https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/occupational-health/covid-19/>

[Covid-19 Staff Support Line](#)- 0141 303 8968

The Workforce Specialist Service-

<https://www.practitionerhealth.nhs.uk/accessing-the-service-in-scotland>

BMA Wellbeing Resource-

<https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/your-wellbeing/wellbeing-support-services/sources-of-support-for-your-wellbeing>

Have a Merry Christmas and festive wishes to you all! Stay safe and see you in 2022!

Yours sincerely,

Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E.
Chair

Dr John Ip
Medical Director

Dr Patricia Moultrie
Medical Director

Marco Florence
Business Coordinator

Elaine McLaren
Administrative Assistant

LMC 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 NHS.SCOT box is monitored daily.

From Week Beginning 22nd November 2021

Covid-19 Vaccinations

- [CMO Covid-19 Vaccination Programme JCVI Update Green Book Advice and Rolling Vaccination](#)
- Scottish Government – JCVI Advice on Clinical Trial Participants
- [SGHD\(2021\)32 Covid-19 Vaccination Programme-](#)

GGC Guidance on Death Certification

- [Death Certification Educational Update](#)

GGC Care Home Update Pack

- [Covering Letter Care Home Information Pack for practices](#)
- [PP WInter 2021](#)

GGC Letter on CDM Monitoring

- [CDM Monitoring Letter 221121](#)

From Week Beginning 29th November 2021

Scottish Government - GP Practices Sustainability Payment 2021-22 & 2022-23

- [PCA\(M\)\(2021\)12 - GP Sustainability Payment](#)
- [PCA\(M\)\(2021\)12 - GP Sustainability Payment Claim Form](#)

Covid-19 Community Pathway Update November 2021

The GP Advice Deck. Guidance developed by the Primary Care Clinical Advisory Group

- [Covid Community Pathway Update and Changes](#)
- [COVID19GP1AdviceTriagePathv26](#)
- [COVID19GP2AdviceCleaningAdvicev6](#)
- [COVID19GP4AdviceHomeVisitv9](#)

- [COVID19GP5AdviceCHILDTriagePathv18](#)
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- [COVID-19BudesonidePathv1](#)

Covid-19 Vaccinations

- [SGHD\(2021\)34 - B.1.1.529 VARIANT \(OMICRON\)](#)

Alert – Type 1 Diabetes and Ketoacidosis Presentations in the Young

- [DIAB INFO 20211123](#)

Whistleblowing Guidance

- [Whistleblowing Letter Dec 21](#)
- [Whistleblowing Users Guide](#)

From Week Beginning 6th December 2021

Winter Respiratory Guidance – Update

- [Respiratory Guidance General Practice Letter Dec 21 Final](#)
FAQ Document (below)
- [Respiratory Pathway Guidance and Summary for General Practice Final](#)
- [Open for Care - Visiting professionals and other services - Updated guidance 021221 - final PDF version](#)
- [IPC Poster Dec 21 v2](#)
- [IPC Poster Dec 21 Final](#)

Scottish Government Public Health Scotland letter on GP Practice Data Extraction

- [Improving Provision of In-hours GP Activity Data FINAL 3](#)