



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 25

8th January 2021

To All GPs and GP Practices

A very Happy New Year to you and your families. We are only a week into 2021 but there has been much activity to ensure that practices are set for the coming months in tackling the pandemic.

The year started with 2 major Covid developments- the announcement of new lockdown restrictions across mainland Scotland due to the rise in cases and new variant, and also the news of the AstraZeneca vaccine rollout. We know that GP practices and wider NHS services are under immense strain with rising Covid cases and staff absences. It is more important than ever to ensure safe working within practices and social distancing amongst staff members.

There will no doubt be new guidance and advice to practices about all aspects of the pandemic response over the coming weeks. We will ensure that we update you with regular fortnightly newsletters and emails, as well being available by phone and Contact Us form.

GP Practice Escalation

The [Scottish Government sent a letter](#) to GP practices on the 29 December about GP practice escalation. This fits in with the GGC [November 2020 GGC Practice Escalation Plan](#) update. Due to increasing pressure on services, staff absences, and the need to prioritise vaccinations and the community pathway, practices may need to reduce or alter the services it can provide. The local Escalation Plan allows for this flexibility in Level 1.

The Scottish Government has committed to ensuring financial stability for practices where reduction in services is required. If practices are struggling to manage even with the flexibilities in Level 1, they may request Level 2 suspension to services such as changes to core hours and branch surgery closure. Requests are made using [this form](#) and emailed to GMS.ContractTeam@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

GPs and Staff Covid Vaccinations

The Board [opened up vaccination slots](#) for GPs and practice staff on 31st December to get their first vaccine dose. We have been informed that the 10,000 appointment slots for this week and the 12,000 slots for next week are currently fully booked. We know that not all GPs and practice have received an appointment and are seeking further clarity around vaccine availability and appointments for staff appointments.

The CMOs and the JCVI announced at the end of December that the second dose of the Covid vaccine should be given up to 12 weeks after the first dose. This was to ensure that as many people as possible could receive the first dose and have some immunity to the virus. This meant that many GPs and practice staff who were due to get their second dose have had their

appointments in January cancelled. Concerns have been expressed by doctors about this change in policy. The British Medical Association is currently pursuing this issue. Dr Lewis Morrison Chair of BMA Scottish Council has [written to doctors about this](#) and the steps that the BMA are taking to address these concerns.

The policy in GGC is that GPs and practice staff should be vaccinated through the staff programme. However, in those practices that are immunising the over 80s, GP and patient facing staff who have not had their first dose, are able to peer immunise using the practice vaccine stock.

To ensure that data about non-registered staff members is updated nationally, please use the [TURAS app](#) if you are peer immunising.

Over 80s Covid Vaccination Programme

Thank you to all the practices who have signed up to the Covid Vaccination DES for the over 80s. Guidance including the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the AstraZeneca was sent to practices on Wednesday. The documents can be accessed using the links below in the Highlight list. Practices will be receiving their first batch of vaccines over the next few weeks. These will be in 3 shipments with the first arriving in some practices this week, the second on the week commencing 11th Jan. and the third on the week commencing 18th Jan. Movianto will email practices about the amount and the delivery date.

We are currently clarifying the process for the delivery of further supplies. Practices will be notified of this shortly.

The coding for Covid immunisations can be done with the practice's clinical system (EMIS or Vision) or through the national TURAS app. Data extraction will take place to ensure that the national vaccination database is kept up to date if the vaccinations are entered through the practice's clinical system.

Community Covid Vaccinations

HSCPs have begun immunising Care Home residents across GGC. Many care homes will be fully immunised by the end of this week. We thank our HSCP clinical colleagues who have worked over the New Year holiday period to ensure that our most vulnerable patients have received their first doses.

The Board and HSCPs are gearing up to deliver the Covid vaccine to the housebound patients and to the rest of the priority cohorts. Many colleagues, current and retired, have contacted the LMC asking about contributing to the vaccination programme. Expressions of interest should be sent to covid.recruitment@ggc.scot.nhs.uk, where applications will be processed along with relevant checks. Educational resources on Covid vaccine are available here- <https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/37676/immunisation/covid-19-vaccines>

The Covid Community Pathway

Thank you to all the GPs and practice staff who worked over the Festive period at the Hub and CACs. Attendances at the CACs have continued to increase over the festive period and there is the potential risk that normal capacity will be exceeded by the rising demand. Prior to Christmas, we had agreed with the Board to release the Practice Emergency Contribution plan-

- [CAC Hub Practice Emergency Contribution covering letter](#)
- [Covid 19 Community Pathway- Practice Emergency Contribution](#)

The escalation plan aims to provide additional capacity from GP practices *on a voluntary basis*, to ensure that the community pathway continues to operate effectively. We would encourage practices to look at the plan and the indicative contribution of your practice in the event that “Step Up” escalation is required.

Practices are asked to set up their Rotamaster logins (for Triage Hub and Barr Street) and for the other local CACs by contacting the emails within the [Practice Emergency Contributions](#) document.

Covid-19 Advice Deck

A reminder about the Guidance developed by the Covid-19 Primary Care Clinical Advisory Group

- [GP Advice Cover Note](#)
- [Advice 1. Covid-19 Triage Pathway](#)
- [Advice 2. Cleaning Advice](#)
- [Advice 3. Respiratory Appointment](#)
- [Advice 4. Home Visit](#)
- [Advice 5. Child Triage](#)
- [Advice 6. Clinical Distancing](#)

The Pathway for Non Covid Presentations in patients who are a Covid infection Risk

- [Covid-19 Asymptomatic Non Covid Presentations](#)

With warm regards and all best wishes to you all.

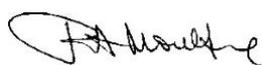
Yours sincerely,



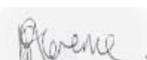
Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E.
Chair



Dr John Ip
Medical Director



Dr Patricia Moultrie
Medical Director



Marco Florence
Business Coordinator

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 NHSmail box is monitored daily.

From Week Beginning 21st December 2020

Shielding Update- letters sent to all Shielding patients from CMO on 21st December

- [Covering Email](#)
- [Covid-19 - Shielding - Blanket fit note for adults DRAFT Dec 20](#)
- [Covid-19 - Shielding - Blanket fit note for children DRAFT Dec 20](#)

Covid-19 Vaccination Update

- [201224 GP Briefing \(final\)](#)
- [AZ Vaccine Distribution Update 21122020 Lead Planners](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Local Storage Guide](#)
- [GP Involvement in COVID Vaccination Programme](#)
- [PCS00800 - PCS Scotland COVID-19 - Coronavirus vaccinations template](#)

Brexit Related information

- [CMO and CPO letter - EU End of Transition Period](#)
- GGC Lead Pharmacist letter on Medication Ordering
- [20201222 Medicine Ordering](#)

Scottish Government on Patient Registration

- [GP Registration - December 2020 v1.1](#)

Scottish Government letter about Non-CE marked PPE

- [Letter to Primary Care Practices Non-CE PPE](#)

New Variant of Coronavirus- Q&A

- [New Variant Q&A 18122020](#)

National GP Practice Workload and Activity Survey

- [In Hours Survey - Practice Letter](#)
- [In-hours survey Guidance](#)

Update from Rheumatology MCN

- [RheumatologyMCN update- Covid Vaccines and NPT Guidance](#)

From Week Beginning 28th December 2020

<p><u>GP Practice Covid Vaccination January 2021</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID Vaccination jan contractors • infor for staff • Staff ID

CMO Letter- Covid-19 Vaccine Prioritisation (24 December)

- [CMO Unnumbered Letter COVID-19 Vaccine Prioritisation](#)

General Practice Escalation November 2020

- [Urgent Circular to Practices - Dec 2020](#)
- [General Practice Escalation November 2020 FINAL](#)
- [PCA\(M\)\(2020\)02 - COVID-19 GGC Form](#)

Core Brief Update on Covid-19 Vaccination 30th December

- [292 - Core Brief - 30 December 2020](#)

Acute Services Update Issue 1

- [Acute Elective Services Newsletter for Primary Care No.1 Dec 20](#)

From Week Beginning 4th January 2021

COVID-19 Vaccinations Over 80s Document Pack for GP Practices

- [NHSGGC COVID-19 VACCINATION SOP OVER80S V0.1](#)

Appendices

- [1. GP Involvement in COVID Vaccination Programme](#)
- [2a.PGD for COVID-19 Vaccine \(ChAdOx1-S recombinant\) AstraZeneca ..](#)
- [2b. Astra Zeneca COVID signature sheet 1](#)
- [5. Template AE Immunisation Coordinators – NHSGGC](#)
- [6. 201224 COVID-19 Pre-Vaccination Screening Form 2020 v0.3](#)
- [9. COVID-19 Vaccine Local Storage Guide](#)
- [10. Turas Vaccination Management User Guide v1.6](#)
- [11. VMT letter to GPv2](#)
- [12. PCS00800 - PCS Scotland COVID-19 - Coronavirus vaccinations template](#)
- [13. turas-vaccination-paper-form-V1](#)
- [14. GPinvitation letter 30Dec20 FINAL](#)

Shielding Update- CMO from 4th January

- [Covering letter Shielding List](#)
- [Covid-19 - Shielding - Blanket fit note for adults DRAFT 4 January 2021](#)
- [Covid-19 - Shielding - Blanket fit note for children DRAFT 4 Jan 2021](#)

CMO Update on Covid-19 Vaccination Programme

- [CMO Letter - Oxford AZ and Update on Pfizer December 2020 v.3](#)