



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 49

1st April 2022

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our 49th Covid newsletter. We are now in the third year of the pandemic and sadly, still battling a surge in infections. This is having a severe impact on GP practices. We know that many clinical and admin colleagues in practices have been affected during this current wave. This has resulted in staffing shortages and further pressure on already overstretched practice teams. We thank all colleagues in GP practices who are working hard at this time to ensure that patients services are being provided.

Like many practices, the LMC team has also been affected by the surge in infections. We continue to operate a hybrid model of working blending working from home and in-office. Our telephone line **0141 332 8081** is on during office hours and the [Contact Us form](#) on our website is available for queries.

Covid Community Pathway Ceases

25th March 2022 was the final day of the Community Pathway. The Remote Triage Hub and the Community Assessment Centres which have been operating since the start of the pandemic closed its door for the final time.

For 2 years the Community Pathway, supported by GPs, nurses, AHPs, administrative and support staff have provided a vital service to patients in GGC- telephone assessments and advice from the Remote hub and face to face clinical assessments at the CACs. The dedicated Community Pathway teams have worked tirelessly through multiple waves of the pandemic and we want to give them our deepest and heartfelt gratitude for their work over the last 2 years.

Practice Respiratory Pathway Guidance

The Primary Care Clinical Advisory Group has issued guidance to GP practices. [This can be found here.](#)

The guidance details 2 pathways for general practice-

- Respiratory Pathway for patients who may be at risk of covid or have respiratory symptoms
- Standard Pathway for all other patients

The documents details guidance to practices about the Transmission Based Precautions which are recommended for the Respiratory Pathway. We are aware that some practices may find some aspects of the guidance challenging especially with their premises constraints. We would be interested in hearing feedback from practices about the Respiratory Pathway and their experiences.

GP Practice Escalation

We are aware that practices are facing considerable pressures at the moment. We would like to remind practices that should they need to make use of the practice escalation [framework](#) then they should engage with the board.

GGC Vaccinations from 1 April 2022

In line with the vaccination transformation programme general practice will no longer be required to provide travel health services from 1st April 2022.

Patients should be advised to access information on what vaccinations are required, together with malarial and safe travel advice at [Home - Fit for Travel](#). The website allows them to select their destination and then view the requirements for the destination before contacting the providers on the [board's website](#).

Ad hoc vaccinations will also no longer be the responsibility of practices from 1st April. Practices needing to make referrals for these should fill in the [form](#) that was recently sent out by the board. Patients should be aware that they may receive a call from an 0800 or withheld number in order to arrange the appointment.

GP Subcommittee/LMC Election

GPs were recently sent the results of the GP Subcommittee/LMC elections. The new committee will first meet at the end of April. We look forward to seeing our new and returning members.

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>

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 28th February 2022

Covid Vaccination

Spring Dose programme and 5-11 year old universal offer

- [Covid-19 Vaccination programme - Spring Dose Programme - Universal Offer for 5-11 year olds - 28 Feb](#)

GGC Practices' Public Holiday Communication

- [Public holidays 2022](#)
- [NHSGGC GP Public Holidays 2022 - 23](#)

GGC Covid Community Pathway update 4 March

- [Covid Community Pathway Update](#)

CMO Letter about Targeted Deployment of Covid-19 medicines for non-hospitalised patients

- [2022-02-16 DL \(2022\) 04 - COVID-19](#)

GGC Acute Services Newsletter

- [Acute Elective Services Newsletter for PC](#)

GGC Anticipatory Care Plan Standard Operating Procedure letter

- [GGC ACP Standard Operating Procedure](#)

From Week Beginning 7th March 2022

Scottish Government letter- Closure of Covid-19 Community Pathway

- [Covid 19 Community Pathway - Directors Letter - Closure of the Community Pathway - February 2022](#)

GGC Nursing/Care Home Falls Pathway via Flow Navigation Hub

- [Letter to all GGC GP Practices re Nursing.Care Home Falls Pathway scale up](#)

Sandyford services update March 2022

- [Sandyford update for Primary Care March 2022](#)

From Week Beginning 14th March 2022

GGC GP Practice Respiratory Pathway Advice March 2022

- [GPRespiratoryPath2022v4](#)

GGC Letter to GP practice- Vaccination and Immunisation Services from 1 April 2022

- [Vaccination and Immunisation Services 170322](#)

Scottish Government CMO letter- Seasonal Influenza: Use of Antivirals

- [SGHD-CMO\(2022\)9](#)

From Week Beginning 21st March 2022

Scottish Government letter for General Practice- Closure of the Community Pathway

- [Covid Pathway letter to General Practice March 2022](#)

Covid-19 Therapeutic Alert – Withdrawal of Inhaled Budesonide as treatment option

- [COVID THERAPEUTIC ALERT - RECOMMENDATION INHALED BUDESONIDE AS A TREATME..](#)
- [COVID 19 therapeutic alert](#)
- [Withdrawal of the recommendation for consideration for inhaled budesonide](#)

From Week Beginning 28th March 2022

GGC Travel Health service- vaccinations from 1 April 2022- [Board Website Link](#)

- [THLetterfinal](#)

GGC Letter to practices about Ah Hoc Vaccinations- [Link to Referral Form](#)

- [GP letter Ad Hoc Vacc final 290322](#)

Scottish Government- Sick Leave funding and continued suspension of online appointments

- [PCA\(M\)\(2022\)05 - Advance Funding Reconciliation Sick Leave and Online Appointments](#)