



## GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

### COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 8

22nd May 2020

#### To All GPs and GP Practices

On Monday, GP practices across GGC will once again remain open for the Public Holiday. This is the fourth holiday that our practices have stayed open since the start of the Covid crisis. We wish to thank GPs and all practice staff for their hard work and dedication for stepping up over those 4 days to continue to provide services to their patients and reduce the pressure on GP OOHs.

#### Full LMC Meeting

We held a full LMC/GP subcommittee this Monday which was our first since the pandemic. We had 32 LMC representatives attending the meeting via Zoom. We discussed the issues affecting GPs and practices currently as well the work that the LMC is doing in representing our GPs on local and national groups. Like with GP practices, the LMC is settling into all the new ways of working to ensure that we provide effective leadership to support GPs and practices, and we remain open during the May public holidays.

#### Easing of Lockdown- Phase 1

The First Minister announced on Thursday the Scottish Government's Covid-19 Routemap and the start of Phase 1 on 28th May. It is important that practices start the planning for dealing with increasing patient demand and how to resume some suspended services. We are still on Level 1 of the Escalation Plan and the LMC is working with the Board to ensure that any revisions are sensible and gradual to allow practices to work safely and effectively. We know that practices are using remote consulting to reduce the footfall in the surgery, and this will need to continue. There will be a further roll out of webcams and dual screens to enable more use of Attend Anywhere and Microsoft Teams by GPs and nurses.

#### Electronic Prescribing

We are continuing to push SGPC and Scottish Government to implement an effective system that will allow e-prescribing without the need for a "wet signature" on a GP10. Electronic prescribing has been available in England for some time and we have been frustrated that the necessary IT and the legal changes have not happened in Scotland. Be assured that we are keep this high up on the IT agenda in local and national groups.

#### **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. [Staff Testing Self-Referral Form](#)

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 [NHS Inform website](#).

[Further GGC guidance](#) is available on what do to when you receive your results.

## Additional Funding Update letter

[PCA\(M\)\(2020\)09](#) gives an update and clarification for practices about the advance additional expenses funding that practices received.

Annex A of the letter gives guidance on the allowable expenses that can be claimed under this advance funding.

## The New GP Contract

The Primary Care Programme Board is resuming next week. This group has been overseeing the delivery of the PCIP and the MOU over the last 2 years. We are working with the Board and HSCPs to reboot the process so that progress on developing services and engaging eMDT staff in GP practices can restart. We are pressing for any redeployed eMDT staff to come back to practices where possible.

The 2018 GP Contract and the MOU has not changed. GPs and practices should expect that the commitments made in 2018 for services and staff to reduce GP workload such as VTP, Pharmacotherapy and Community Treatment and Care (CTAC) will be delivered. The task will be more challenging than before because of the pandemic and need to social distance. How services can be delivered will need to be examined as well as how IT and remote working can act as enablers to progress. We are particularly mindful of the mental health impact of Covid and the lockdown on practice workload and will be seeking services to address this.

## Recovery and Clinical Pathways

We are on the many Board-wide groups looking at Recovery planning and new clinical pathways. We are acutely alert of the impact that new clinical or referral pathways may have on GP workload and have been robust in pushing back inappropriate proposals. This has included a number of Gyn pathways as well as colorectal proposals. We will continue to work with these groups so that clinical service changes as part of the Recovery plan fits in with the direction of the GP Contract i.e. workload reduction and the GP Expert Medical Generalist role.

## Reporting of Covid Deaths to the Fiscal

The CMO wrote to doctors on 20th May updating the guidance for Death Certification. In addition, the requirements to report Covid deaths to the Procurator Fiscal has be updated too. The letter is linked in the Documents List. In summary, GPs need to report to the Fiscal service:

- where the deceased was a resident in a care home when the virus was contracted,
- where the deceased may have contacted the virus in the course of their employment or occupation e.g. care home workers, frontline NHS and emergency services staff, transport workers

GPs should use the usual Scottish Fatalities Investigation Unit reporting template on SCI Gateway- [ [New Message](#) | [Death Notification](#) | [Scottish Fatalities Investigation](#) | [Death Notification](#) ].

With warm regards and all best wishes to you all.

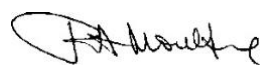
Yours sincerely,



**Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E.**  
Chair



**Dr John Ip**  
Medical Director



**Dr Patricia Moultrie**  
Medical Director



**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 (Updated 21st May 2020)

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

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

Scottish Government- Additional Funding update and clarification letter

- [PCA\(M\)\(2020\)09 - GP Practices – Additional Funding – COVID-19 - Update and Clarification - 20th May](#)

CMO Letter on Updated Guidance for Death Certification and PF Reporting

- [CMO letter Re Updated Guidance for Death Certification during the COVID19 Pandemic](#)

CMO Letter on the Change to Clinical Case Definition to include **Anosmia**

- [CMO letter - SGHD\(2020\)14 - Case Definition Change - Final - 18 May 2020](#)

GP Practice Covid-19 Additional Funding letter from GGC

- [COVID19 Additional Funding 150520](#)
- [General Practice Additional Costs related to COVID19 Reimbursement form](#)
- [General Practice Additional Costs related to COVID19 Reimbursement total costs form](#)

NHSGGC Guidance for Health Visiting, School Nursing and FNP Service

- [Final Children and Families Clinical Guidance Covid 19 13.05.20](#)

Scottish Government Guidance for Management of community Covid-19 related illness

- [Guidance for community Covid-19 related care V1.1 080520](#)

GGC Patient Letter for patients with newly diagnosed Type 2 Diabetes

- [TP2 Newly Diagnosed Letter COVID19 GP Practice v4](#)