



## GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

### COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 35

28th May 2021

#### To All GPs and GP Practices

We hope you are all well and looking forward to a much needed rest over the public holiday weekend. A big thank you to GPs and staff who will be working over the long weekend in the GP Out of Hours Service and the Community Pathway.

Workload pressures are continuing to build, and we have been focused on getting this message out to the general public

#### General Practice under severe pressure

General Practice is under severe workload pressure currently. The LMC and BMA have been working together to get this message across to politicians and the public. Dr John Ip has written a [blog](#) about challenges that practices are experiencing-

<https://bmascotland.home.blog/2021/05/26/gps-facing-a-triple-whammy-of-pressure/>.

Dr Ip also had a letter printed in The Herald last week: <https://t.co/bmy78QnC9f>

The [BMA's survey of GPs has been published](#). This shows that the majority of GPs are finding their workload unmanageable and affecting their wellbeing. We are very concerned that many GPs are considering earlier retirement or reducing their sessions, and the impact this will have on the GP workforce.

We are worried about the wellbeing of GPs and practice staff. We have heard from many practices about an increase in abusive and unreasonable behaviour from some patients.

We support the BMA's call for the Scottish Government to support general practice- not only with public messaging about the pressures on GP services and what can be safely delivered at the present time, but also a clear message that abuse to practice staff is not acceptable. There needs to be a push on recruitment for staff as part of the 2018 Contract service such as pharmacotherapy and CTAC to ensure that general practice is sustainable.

#### COVID-19 vaccination status scheme launches

A service that allows people travelling abroad to access a record of their vaccination status has been launched. This is an interim solution if patients are travelling in the next 21 days.

A vaccination status letter can be requested from NHS Inform via a **Freephone Covid Status Helpline: 0808 196 8565**.

Patients should not request their vaccine status information from their GP. Staff shouldn't make requests from the staff Covid mailbox either. Only those planning to travel to a country or territory where a record of vaccination status is needed as an entry requirement should

request it. The Scottish Government has stated that as Scotland's vaccination programme progresses, vaccination status will be replaced by digital Covid Status Certificates, which will include vaccination and testing data to be used for outbound international travel.

### **Covid Community Pathway**

We are working with the Board on the review of the Community Pathway. The last 2 weeks has seen a significant increase in the number of patients attending the CACs. We are now at similar levels that we saw in early January. Many of the patients are children under 5 and we are examining the evidence around rates of Covid infections in this cohort.

We know that Community Pathway has been a vital part of our pandemic response and has allowed practices to operate with a much reduced risk of Covid infection. As we plan for the autumn and winter, we want the Community Pathway to be operating as effectively as possible to allow the remobilisation of GP practice services.

We would encourage any GPs who are able, despite current workload demands, to contribute time to the pathway to urgently consider doing so even where they have not done in the past. Induction is available and the contact details are:

- Telephone Hub- Derek Johnstone 0141 616 6215 and via Rotamaster, GPOOH booking system
- Barr Street CAC- Derek Johnstone 0141 616 6215 and via Rotamaster, GPOOH booking system
- Linwood CAC- [RenfrewshireCHTesting@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:RenfrewshireCHTesting@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) or [George.Wilkie@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:George.Wilkie@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) or telephone 01505 821418
- Clydebank & Renton CACs- Anna Crawford 07811 247708, [Anna.Crawford@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Anna.Crawford@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

### **Enhanced Services**

We have raised with the Board the significant concerns that practices expressed in regard to revised expectations in the Extended Hours and Palliative Care Enhanced Service arrangements which were agreed by the LMC in April as part of a wider negotiation regarding enhanced services. These changes to the enhanced services requirements that were issued to practices last week were agreed before the surge in Covid cases in the south of Glasgow and the full impact of relaxation of lockdown on practice workload was evident. We raised with the Board concerns on behalf of practices and have reached a revised agreement which will be sent out.

### **Collaborative Fees Updated**

We have agreed the uplifted fees that practices undertake under Collaborative Arrangements. This includes work such as Adoption medicals/reports, child and adult protection reports, and case conferences. The documents are linked below and also available in the [LMC website library](#) under the "Collaborative Arrangements" folder.

The fee for GPs' and practice managers' attendances to Board/HSCP meetings has also been updated too. These are available below and in the LMC website library under the "Claim Forms" folder.

## Practice Managers Event

Thank you to all the practice managers who attended the event last week. Over 110 practice managers joined our online session. It was great to see and hear from you, and we are hugely grateful for all your hard work over the past year. We hope you found the session helpful and we look forward to seeing you in person in future PM Development Events. We appreciate a number of officials from the Board taking the time to listen to practice managers and providing their input to the event.

## 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](http://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](https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/working-with-us/hr-connect/occupational-health/covid-19/)- 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>

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

**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 17th May 2021**

### Covid-19 Vaccinations

- [Email - New Staff Covid Vaccine 18 May](#)

CMO Letter- B1.617.2 Variant

- [Chief Medical Officer - SGHD-CMO\(21\)13 -](#)

**Covid-19 Vaccination Status Scheme**

- [CB - 20 May 21 - Vaccination Status](#)

NES- General Practice Recovery Consolidated Guidance for Practices 2021

- [GP - Guidance Version v1.1](#)

GGC Enhanced Services

- [Enhanced Service Payments and Year End Process 190521](#)
- [Contraceptive Implant Activity form 2021-22](#)
- [IUCD NES ACTIVITY FORM 2021-22](#)
- [Minor Surgery Activity Form 2021-22](#)
- [NPT Year Claim form 2020-21](#)
- [Palliative Care Annex A 2020-21](#)
- [Palliative Care Claim Form 2020-21](#)

**From Week Beginning 24th May 2021**

GGC Update- Collaborative Fees and GP Sessional Rate payment

- [Collaborative Fees 210521](#)
- [Collaborative Fees April 2021](#)
- [Collaborative Fee Claim Form April 2021](#)
- [Sessional Rates April 2021](#)
- [FHS Contractor Payment Claim Form](#)

GGC Enhanced Services Clarification letter 27th May

- [Enhanced Service Payments and Year End Process Clarification 270521](#)

Covid Pathway Update- Dr Kerri Neylon

- [COVID pathway update \(Final\)](#)

Primary Care Resilience Webinar Wed 16 June 1-2pm

- [Primary Care Resilience Webinar Covering email](#)
- [Primary Care Resilience Webinar 7 Flyer - Wednesday 16 June 2021](#)