



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 23

4th December 2020

To All GPs and GP Practices

Welcome to our newsletter once again. We have at last reached the final month of this difficult and often unsettling year. We are all looking forward to Christmas but we know that this festive season will be unlike previous years. Although there will be no practice parties this year, we know that practices are doing their best to spread some festive cheer. Especially for this year staff morale needs to be maintained and it is important to remember that activities need to be Covid-safe and socially distanced. Buffet lunches and sharing of food is to be avoided.

GP and Practice Manager Zoom Meeting

It was good to see so many of you at the LMC GP Practice meeting last Wednesday. 250 GPs and practice managers joined the virtual meeting to hear about the current developments and proposals on Community Pathway support, Covid vaccinations, public holidays, and practice escalation/workload. We had very useful feedback and comments from attendees that will assist us in our discussions with the Board. We hope you found the meeting equally useful.

2018 Contract Implementation- Joint letter from SGPC and Scottish Government

The Cabinet Secretary Jeane Freeman and SGPC Chair Dr Andrew Buist have released a [joint letter](#) describing the Contract implementation plans beyond 2021/22. It describes the contractual and transitional arrangements for services such as VTP, Pharmacotherapy and CTAC from April 2021 onwards. The letter and the details contained within it will undoubtedly be a focus of debate at the Scottish LMC Conference which is being held virtually on Friday 4th December.

<https://www.glasgowlmc.co.uk/download/contract%20and%20contractural%20Issues/Joint-Letter-SGBMA-Contract-final.docx>

NHSGGC Primary Care Appointments

Congratulations to Lorna Kelly who has been appointed as Interim Director for Primary Care. Also, congratulations to Dr Kerri Neylon who has been formally appointed as Deputy Medical Director for Primary Care.

These appointments give primary care a significant and much needed management and clinical presence in the NHS Board. We know the importance of primary care and general practices' contribution to the whole NHS system and we hope that these appointments will strengthen the Board's focus and responsibility in this area.

Care Home Support over Festive Holidays

We continue our discussions with the Board around a (voluntary) Care Home support LES for the 2 festive holiday weekends. Details will be out shortly. We hope that practices who have residential care home or nursing home patients will feel able to engage in this service. We

think that input from the GP practice who knows their patients is invaluable in providing patient centred care, reducing contact with the GP OOH service, and potentially avoiding hospital admission.

The intention of the LES is to deal only with any urgent clinical need arising over the holiday period taking the pressure off GP OOHs. Workload which would normally have waited until after the public holidays, will continue to be dealt with by the practice on the Tuesdays in the usual manner. The expectation will be that any house visit required will be carried out by GP OOHs.

In the run up to the festive breaks, we want to remind practices to identify their care home and terminally ill patients, and prepare for any anticipated issues such as “just in case” medications and to update the eKIS record where appropriate.

Covid Vaccination Programme

The Pfizer Covid vaccine has been approved by the MHRA. Health and care staff are expected to be in the first cohort of vaccine delivery. Practices will be contacted soon with detailed arrangements of how staff will be able to book appointments, and also confirmation of staff eligibility.

Training materials on vaccine delivery, including Webinars, will be made available. Initially these will focus on delivery of the first vaccine and we will advise further when training materials focussed on the vaccine expected to be available for use in practices becomes available.

The [Covid-19 vaccination DES specification](#) has been published. The DES specifies a rate of £12.58 per vaccination (£25.16 for course of 2 doses). There is also a payment of £40 for 100 patient records updated for Covid vaccinations not done by the practice regardless of whether the practice takes on the cohort immunisations.

The LMC is working closely with the Board to agree how practices will be able to assist in the vaccination of patients over 80s who are able to attend the practice. We are exploring ways for practices who may require HSCP assistance to be able to immunise this cohort, to be able to get support.

We would expect very shortly that practices will be asked about their ability to contribute to vaccination of this cohort of patients. Beyond the practice delivery to the over 80s, we understand that there may be an opportunity for GPs and practice clinical staff to contribute as individuals to the wider vaccination programme and we will give further information on that as soon as it is available.

The Covid Community Pathway

The Community Pathway (CACs and Remote triage Hub) has been operating since the start of the pandemic dealing with symptomatic patients and those at risk of Covid. This has allowed GP practices to see patients without the risks of Covid cases. We thank all the GPs and staff who have worked in the Pathway over the past 8 months.

The plans for supporting the Community Pathway over winter are being finalised. These include the Practice Standby arrangements, and the Practice Emergency Contribution to the CAC/Hub service. It is important to stress that none of the plans will put any mandatory

obligation on GPs or practices. However, the emergency plans are needed to ensure that the service is resilient in the event of potential surges in Covid cases. Where GPs have capacity to contribute time to the service, we hope that they are able to, and feel supported.

Redesign of Urgent Care

The way that patients access A&E for non-life threatening conditions is changing. The public is being asked to call NHS24 first – day or night. NHS24 will assess people by telephone and will be able to refer them to the right service for their needs. There has been a “soft launch” of this process in GGC with the plan for a wider public information campaign in the new year.

We are working with the Board on the Primary Care interface with this work. We expect communications from the Board to come out shortly. In the meantime, we would not expect this to have any impact on General Practice. If you do have any concern that changes are adversely impacting on your practice, then please bring this to the attention of your local CD and the LMC.

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](#)

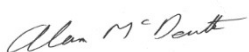
A Few Words from Mary Fingland- Farewell and Thank You

Just a few words to say thank you for the kind and humbling words and gifts I received in the weeks leading up to my retirement on Friday 27th November and special thanks to John, Patricia, Elaine, Marco and Lewis for organising my wonderful Zoom send off with friends and colleagues past and present. I will look back on my time with the LMC with great fondness. It has been a privilege to work for and with colleagues in the LMC, General Practice and Primary Care, over the last 20 years. I have been lucky to work for a great organisation that has the welfare and interests of General Practice at its heart and has over the last 107 years (yes, I know) built on and maintained good working relationships with all sectors to promote, sustain and watch over General Practice.

I am starting my next life adventure with great memories of my last. Thank you for making those memories special.

With warm regards and all best wishes to you all.

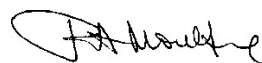
Yours sincerely,



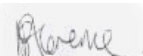
Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E.
Chair



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 23rd November 2020

COVID-19 Vaccination DES

- [PCA\(M\)\(2020\)17 - COVID-19 Immunisation Programme](#)

Shielding letters to patients from Interim CMO (Tier 4)

- [Shielding - Level 4 Fit Note - CMO Letter - 18 Nov 2020](#)
- [Shielding - Level 4 Letter for Children - Final Draft 17 Nov](#)
- [shielding shopping easy read Nov 2020](#)

Death Certification Review Service- Temporary changes

- [Temporary Changes to the Death Certification Review Service](#)

Flu Programme 2020/21- Amended PGD

- [Flu Vaccine amended PGD Nov2020](#)

Community Learnpro

- [Changing your Username in Community Learnpro](#)

From Week Beginning 30th November 2020

Joint letter from Scottish Government and SGPC on the 2018 Contract

- [Joint Letter - SGBMA - Contract final](#)

Letter from the Cabinet Secretary to NHS Board Chief Executives and Chairs

- [Letter from Cabinet Secretary](#)

GGC Primary Care Support and Development letter about Quarterly Complaints Survey

- [Restarting Quarterly Complaints Survey GP Letter](#)

HPS Update

- [HPS Briefing Note - Denmark Mink Mutation 28th Nov 2020](#)

Scottish Government Vaccine Programme Update

- [SG FVCV Programme - issue 1 update](#)