



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 47

4th February 2022

To All GPs and GP Practices

We hope you and your practice teams are well. January always feels the longest and toughest of months, and we are all glad it is over. Although the Omicron surge has not led to the dramatic increase in severe illness and hospitalisations that we saw with Delta, GP practices and the wider health service continues to be under immense pressure both with workload and with staffing and self-isolation challenges. We thank all our GP and practice colleagues for their work and dedication.

GGC Covid Community Pathway

The [Board wrote to GPs this week](#) with details about the decommissioning of the Community Pathway- the Remote Triage hub and the Community Assessment Centres (CACs)- by the end of March 2022.

The Community Pathway has been a vital part of the Board's Covid response since March 2020. At the height of the pandemic waves during 2020 and 2021, the CACs were seeing over 600 patients per week. These large numbers of Covid patient have been assessed safely and effectively outside of GP practice settings which has allowed practices to operate in a lower Covid risk environment.

In the past 2 months even with the Omicron variant, numbers going through the Pathway have steadily declined from 300 to under 180 CAC attendances per week. This represents fewer than 1 patient per practice per week. The staffing, infrastructure, and cost-effective considerations has meant that it is now the right time to plan for an exit to the Community Pathway. We will be working closely and collaboratively with the Board to develop support and guidance for practices to ensure a safe transition out of the Community Pathway.

Covid Community Pathway – GP Meeting

It was great to see so many GP colleagues at our virtual GP meeting on Wednesday evening. Dr Alan McDevitt chaired the session with contributions from Dr Kerri Neylon, NHSGGC Deputy Medical Director.

The GP meeting was an opportunity for the LMC and Dr Neylon to hear GPs' views about the planned closure of the pathway and how this would impact on practices. The views and comments put forward are helpful. We will work with the Board in planning for the next stage as we exit from the Community pathway, and support and guide practices with assessing and seeing Covid / at-risk patients within practices.

LMC Covid Workload Survey

Many thanks to all the practices that are carrying out the survey. We are in the final week of the 4 week survey. This information is important especially as we plan for the winding down of the Community Pathway at the end of March.

We know that practices are under immense pressure currently, not only with managing primary care presentations, but also dealing with the huge numbers of patients on secondary care waiting lists. The vast majority of practices remain on Level 1 of the General Practice Escalation Framework with a handful on L2 and L3. The Update to the Framework documents can be found in the Highlight List in our [LMC Comms No.46](#).

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 January 2022

Child Protection Training Dates

- [CP Roles Responsibilities learning and education training sessions 2022](#)

From Week Beginning 24th January 2022

Covid Vaccinations

At risk 5 to 11 year olds

- [Covering Note Information for GPs and Paediatricians](#)
- [Information for GPs and Paediatricians](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination - CMO Letter - Further vaccination CYP](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Clinical Referral Form](#)

Further Information about Covid Vaccinations- Pregnancy, 12-17 year olds, booster

- [Covering email vaccination assets](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Booster - Social media copy January 2022](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine in Pregnancy TOOLKIT Dec 2021](#)
- [DCMO video social media copy](#)
- [SAMPLE NEWSLETTER COPY - 11-01-22](#)

CMO Letter about Firearms Licencing Guidance

- [Chief Medical Officer - final version - SGHD-CMO\(2022\) 5 - Guidance for Information Sharing Requirement between Police and General Practitioners \(GPs\) and Regist](#)

From Week Beginning 31st January 2022

NHS GGC Covid Community Pathway Update letter

- [Covid Community Pathway Update and Changes](#)

Self-isolation Guidance update for Health and Social Care staff

- [DCMO letter - Update of self isolation for health and social care staff](#)

Working Health Services Scotland information

- [Dear Doctors.doc](#)
- [Working Health Services Scotland.doc](#)

CMO letter about Hysterectomy Operations

- [CMO Letter - SGHD-CMO \(2022\) 2 - Hysterectomy Operations](#)