



## GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

### COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 19

9th October 2020

#### To All GPs and GP Practices

New Covid restrictions begins today across GGC and the central belt. It will be a strange October school week for many of us with pubs and restaurants closed. Whilst there is no travel ban, Scottish Government advice is not to travel outside the health board area unless there is a need to, and to avoid public transport unless it is “absolutely necessary”.

These new rules will undoubtedly add to the public’s heightened anxiety, and consequently, to higher GP practice workload. We are hearing from practices of increasing patient contacts to above pre-pandemic levels. Mental health issues, multiple contacts from individuals, delays in secondary care services, and flu /Covid queries are straining GP services.

**We have called on the Board and Scottish Government for a comprehensive public information campaign to educate the population on appropriate self-care and use of GP services. This is vital as we prepare for the second wave of infections alongside winter illnesses.**

#### Covid Community Pathway and CACs

The LMC strongly supports the Covid Pathway which has kept GP practices Covid-free by streaming at-risk and symptomatic patients to the Community Assessment Centres (CACs). Currently 4 CACs are operating- at Barr Street, Linwood and the 2 CACs in West Dunbartonshire. We want to thank all the GPs and staff who have contributed their time to maintaining this service.

The Pathway is under significant pressure now and unfilled shifts are frequently appearing. Public Health have modelled scenarios of potential patient numbers coming to the CACs over the next few months. The capacity at the 4 CACs is currently over 900 patients per week.

The projected numbers for predicted peak demand varies between 1,200 and 3,700 per week. In terms of *per average practice* (6,000) this works out to between 6 and 17 patients per week.

We have discussed the scenarios and the solutions required if CACs are unable to cope with demand. We are opposed to CACs redirecting at-risk or symptomatic patients back to GP practices to be seen as this poses risk to GPs, practice staff and to non Covid patients.

We have suggested that other services such as the Specialist Assessment and Treatment Areas (SATA) may be escalated in the event of CACs being overwhelmed. However, there is no Board agreement currently, nor guarantee that these services would have the capacity especially if numbers are high. Also, there is a risk of overspill patients going into GP OOHs destabilising the service with cases being passed back to practices in-hours.

We believe that the best way to ensure stability and continuity of the CACs and Community Pathway is to increase GP and practice staff availability to work in the service. We understand that everyone is working incredibly hard in practices currently. It is not simple for practices to free up GP or nurse time during the working day.

However, we do hope that if practices are able to release staff even for a session every now and then, or if people are able to pick up shifts intermittently outside of practice time, we can fully staff the Community Pathway for the this predicted surge, keeping practices Covid-free.

If you are available, please contact [Carole.Noonan@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Carole.Noonan@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) (Barr Street) or [carol.graham2@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:carol.graham2@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) (Linwood) and [ann.forsyth@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:ann.forsyth@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) (Admin Staff) to enquire about shifts and rotas.

### PCIP and Trackers

We are still focussed on the delivery of the 2018 Contract and the PCIPs despite the pressures of the pandemic. Our local PCIP reps have been working with HSCP colleagues to finalise the “Tracker” spreadsheets for October. These will report on the progress in all the MOU areas- VTP, Pharmacotherapy, CTAC, Urgent Care, Physio, Mental Health, and CLWs. The Trackers go to Scottish Government and is scrutinised by the National Oversight Group.

We have been clear that the Trackers need to fully represent the extent of the gaps in service delivery. It is important going into 2021 that the government provides the funding and the workforce that is required to deliver on the Contract.

PCIP Representatives	
Glasgow City: Dr Hilary McNaughtan	Renfrewshire: Dr Gordon Forrest
East Dunbartonshire: Dr Alastair Taylor	West Dunbartonshire: Dr Alex Potter
Inverclyde: Dr Gayle Dunnett	East Renfrewshire: Dr Chris Mansbridge

### Scottish General Practitioners Committee

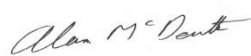
We have a total of 8 reps to SGPC for the 2020/21. This year’s session was delayed due to the postponement of the BMA Annual Representatives Meeting from June to September. The first meeting of SGPC will be on 22 October 2020.

SGPC reps:

Drs John Ip (GPC UK), Patricia Moultrie (GPC UK), Ronnie Burns, Maureen Byrne, Mark Fawcett, Alan McDevitt, Hilary McNaughtan, and Alastair Taylor.

With warm regards and all best wishes to you all.

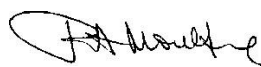
Yours sincerely,



Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E.  
Chair



Dr John Ip  
Medical Director



Dr Patricia Moultrie  
Medical Director



Mary Fingland  
Business Coordinator

### LMC 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 28th September 2020**

GGC Public Health letter- Over 65 and QIVc supply

- [GP Update Over 65 and QIVc supply](#)

Letter from Dr Steedman Interim Deputy CMO- Management of fever following immunisation

- [Fever following flu vaccination](#)

Public Health Scotland Guidance- Care Homes

- [COVID-19 Guidance for Care Home Settings v1.7](#)

New Physiotherapy self-management website following illness including Covid

- [Core Brief](#)

NSS Good Practice Newsletter

- [Good Practice - Edition 128 Octobe... - GP87490 \(NHS GREATER GLASGOW & CLYDE\)](#)

GP Practice PECOS Approved list

- [Appendix B GP Practice Updated Approved Items - Sept 2020](#)

### **From Week Beginning 5th October 2020**

GGC Flu Programme Cohorts Table summary

- [Cohorts on a page website](#)

Core Brief- includes Staff Contact Tracing guidance for managers, 2021 Public Holidays

- [Core Brief 02.10.20](#)

Signposting for patients with newly diagnosed Type 2 diabetes

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