



GLASGOW LOCAL MEDICAL COMMITTEE LIMITED

COVID PRACTICE COMMUNICATION NO 15

31st July 2020

To All GPs and GP Practices

We hope you have an opportunity over the summer to take some time off and to recharge yourselves. It has been a challenging time for all of us in general practice dealing with the pandemic and making rapid changes to our working patterns. As we enter August, we are working to ensure that practices are prepared for the rest of 2020 and the multiple pressures that we will inevitably face.

Flu Programme

There has been a lot of planning to ensure that the flu programme for 2020/21 can be successfully delivered. We are represented on the groups that are coordinating the response for flu immunisations. A Board-wide Reference Group along with an operational Steering Group are drawing up plans in collaboration with LMC and GP subcommittee leads.

We know that a whole system approach is needed this year, along with additional workforce and physical locations to deliver the adult flu programme. GPs and practice managers have enormous experience in the successful delivery of flu; this knowledge and expertise will be key. In addition to flu delivery, the Covid vaccine is predicted for late 2020 which will vastly expand the immunisation workload.

We are working with Board and HSCP colleagues to finalise a plan which will ensure a stable financial package for practices along with an agreed and manageable cohort of patients for practices to immunise. Where there are larger centralised immunisation centres, the level of practice engagement in these will be agreed. We hope to have an agreed plan out to practices very soon.

Template Letters for Workload Transfer

GPs and practice managers have given positive feedback about the [LMC Template letters](#). These can be used to push back on unfunded and non-agreed workload transfer. As GP practices prepare for flu, and restart services such as screening and CDM, we must not allow the continued shift of inappropriate work from secondary and community service. The Template Letters can be downloaded here-

https://www.glasgowlmc.co.uk/download/Links/test/17_july/Glasgow-LMC-Template-Letters-2020-v2.docx

Pandemic Annual Prescribing

The LMC have agreed a voluntary plan for practices- the “Pandemic Annual Prescribing Medication System” or PAMS. This will be sent out to practices this coming week. PAMS is an alternative plan to the Board’s Serial Prescribing proposal which is based on the Medicines Care and Review (MCR) service [formerly CMS or Chronic Medication Service].

The aim of PAMS is to change patients over to an annual prescription which is dispensed by the pharmacy at agreed intervals e.g. 4 or 8 weekly. Its aims are: reducing the need to order prescriptions at the practice, reducing the numbers of paper prescriptions and ultimately reducing footfall in practices to collect the paper prescriptions.

The PAMS proposal is practice led and will not divert away existing Pharmacotherapy staff or time for MCR work. It is up to the practice to decide whether to take up these proposals.

IT Update

We thank the IT team who continue the vital work supporting GP practices and increasingly, supporting practice team members who are working remotely from home.

NHS.SCOT

The migration from **nhs.net** email addresses to **nhs.scot** is due to take place in late August. This is a very significant change for all NHSmail users and it is important that all users are fully aware of what will be happening. There is an [FAQ](#) available and we would encourage you to access this-

https://www.nhsggc.org.uk/media/260998/nhs_net_mail_faqs.pdf

Attend Anywhere Equipment

Webcams, speakers and dual screens are on High Priority order for NHS Scotland but the Board is still waiting for its delivery. This is due to a worldwide shortage of hardware. However, we are told that the timescale for delivery should now be a few weeks.

Windows 10

The programme to update all practice PCs from Windows 7 to Windows 10 will begin soon. This will mean that computers will be down for part of the working day. We are working closely with the IT team to ensure that any disruption to practices is kept to a minimum.

CTAC Survey

Thank you to all the 200 GPs and practice managers who responded to the LMC's Community Treatment and Care service survey. The results revealed that around 70% of practices may be able to accommodate CTAC services in the GP premises without problems or with some restrictions even with the need for social distancing and PPE. It also highlighted the current disparity between practices as 50% do not have access to a treatment room. Therefore, there is an urgent need to implement CTAC especially for those practices.

We will use the feedback from the survey in our discussions with the Board and HSCP

With warm regards and all best wishes to you all.

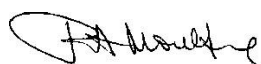
Yours sincerely,



Dr Alan McDevitt C.B.E.
Chair



Dr John Ip
Medical Director



Dr Patricia Moultrie
Medical Director



Mary Fingland
Business. Coordinator

LMC Fortnightly 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 20th July 2020

Shielding

CMO Letter on Update to Shielding in Scotland 24 July 2020

- [CMO Letter to Clinicians and Boards - Shielding Updates 24 07 20](#)
- [Annex A - CMO Letter to Patients - Update on Stopping Shielding](#)
- [Annex B - Identification and Data Process Guidance](#)

Scottish Government letter about Urgent Suspicion of Lung Cancer Referral

- [Management of suspected lung cancer referrals during COVID v1.0](#)

Practice Nurse Support and Development Team- Cervical Screening guide

- [How to guide - COVID Cervical screening V1](#)

From Week Beginning 27th July 2020

Scottish Government: Covid 19 Additional Funding update 28 July 2020

- [PCA\(M\)\(2020\)12 - COVID-19 Expenses](#)

NHSGGC Podiatry Service Update

- [NHSGGC Podiatry Phase GP Covering Letter 22-07-20](#)
- [NHSGGC Podiatry Service Recovery Timeline Referral Pathway 17-07-20](#)

NHS Scotland Pharmacy First Signposting Guidance for GP Practices Teams

- [Pharmacy First](#)

Practice Nurse Support and Development Team- GP Nurses undertaking House Calls

- [Covering Note GPN House Calls](#)
- [GPN \(House calls\) How to guide](#)