



Dear Colleague

Please see below for your information our latest updates during the Covid-19 pandemic:

COVID guidance for Learning disability patients

Guidance from Rezina Sakel, GP Clinical Lead for Learning Disability and Autism, regarding [COVID management for patients with learning disabilities and/or autism](#).

End of Life Care Medicine Reuse in Care Homes and Hospices

The DHSC has now published the new SOP for EOLC medicine reuse in care homes and hospices. The guidance sets out criteria for when and how a medicine can be 'reused' in these settings.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-reuse-of-medicines-in-a-care-home-or-hospice>

Treatment Escalation Plans (TEPs)

TEPs improve the communication of a patient's wishes to the system should they need assistance out of hours from SECamb, the community nursing team and secondary care. The hope is that unnecessary admissions which are against patient's wishes are reduced and vice versa where a patient would want to go to hospital they do. It should be a framework for conversations which would already be taking place. Practices do not need to run a search and if practices have recently completed an Anticipatory Care Plan (ACP) they do not need to duplicate this again. Where practices should consider proactively completing these would be if a patient is known to be dying in the community and does not have a recent ACP, or if a care home/residential unit is at risk of an outbreak of COVID-19. Give priority to larger care homes who are accepting new patients, and care home where ACPs have not been put in place. It is not a contractual obligation but would be considered best practice. TEPs/ACP should be left as a hard copy with the patient to ensure that the information is visible to any visiting health care worker. [There is a flow chart which explains the process](#).

Supporting psychological wellbeing during Covid 19 – A practical webinar for frontline staff

NHSE/I staff support workstream are pleased to be hosting a webinar on **Wednesday 6th May** from 11am to 12noon which has been developed to support the wellbeing and mental health of staff working in Acute (including critical care), Mental Health and Community Trusts, Primary Care, the Independent Sector and Care Homes across the South East Region. Speakers will be Dr Katrina Lake, Adult Mental Health Clinical Lead and Catherine Randall, Deputy Head of Safeguarding NHS England and Improvement.

Link to Webinar: https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZDY2ZGRiMzYtMDRkNy00N2EwLTk1NTgtMDQyNmM2N2U2OGU1%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2203159e92-72c6-4b23-a64a-af50e790adb%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22b88648fe-933d-4815-ae93-bd8172d48bb0%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3a%22true%7d

Kind regards
The Kent Local Medical Committee