

30 June 2020

For general practice in Kent and Medway

COVID-19 Update 31

This update is provided by Kent and Medway CCG to provide information to help practices deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have any feedback or ideas to make the updates more useful to you please email kmccg.gpscovid19@nhs.net.

Highlight:

Please make sure that one person from each practice completes the weekly sit rep here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/62MD2B7> by 11am on Thursday 2 July.

Weekly Primary Care Sitrep Survey

Thank you for continuing to complete the primary care sitrep survey. The summary of last week's responses is attached for your information.

There have been a number of queries regarding completion of the workforce questions in the survey (Q8-14). As these are nationally mandated questions from NHSE, the CCG thought it important to clarify the questions and how they should be answered. When answering these questions, could you please note the following key issues:

- Every weekly return needs to show the rolling total since the beginning of the pandemic, not just the change in the past week.
- Questions 10 and 13 (how many deployed during covid response) must be a subset of questions 9 and 12 (how many have a contract). Please note this second question relates only to contracted workforce.

The CCG Business Intelligence Team have amended some practice responses from last week's survey in line with these issues, which will need to be reviewed by each GP practice for accuracy. If your practice data was amended, you will receive an email requesting your confirmation.

If your practice would like to be added to the list from last week for booking a 30-minute digital consultation with the CCG's digital team, there is another opportunity to do so this week.

Please make sure that one person from each practice completes the weekly sitrep here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/62MD2B7> by **11am on Thursday 2 July**.

Clinical Advice & Support

Reporting of General Practice-based Covid-19 Outbreaks

NHS England and NHS Improvement has prepared a briefing document on reporting general practice-based Covid-19 outbreaks. Along with the attached briefing there is also an action card / flowchart summarising the process and an IIMarch form for use by general practices to report outbreaks or service disruption.

Shielded Patients List – EMIS search

The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for general practice was updated to version 3.2 on 10th June.

You can access the update [here](#).

This guidance includes shielded patients guidance and some key actions for general practice around prescribing and dispensing.

We will be sending an email shortly outlining this guidance and including a search to run on your clinical system. The aim of this search is to understand how best the CCG is able to support practices to comply with the key actions around EPS / ERD and delivery in relation to patients on the Shielded Patient List.

Temporary residents

NHS England has circulated guidance on when to register patients as a temporary resident, outlined below.

The current rules on patient registration set out that a practice may register patients as a temporary resident if they are resident in the practice area for more than 24 hours but less than three months. However, given the introduction of [total triage](#) and the rapid and widespread increase in use of remote consultations by practices, registering as a temporary resident might no longer be necessary or provide the most appropriate access or care for the patient.

Under these circumstances and where it is clinically appropriate to do so, patients may be referred back to their registered practice to be assessed by a clinician who knows the patient and can access their medical record.

Practices may still need to see patients face to face in certain circumstances and therefore register them as a temporary resident. In addition, all patients, even if not on the practice list and not a temporary resident, must still be provided with primary medical services in core hours for any immediately necessary treatment, which may include medication.

Practices should note that if a patient needs a prescription while away from home, that some (not all) prescribing systems allow a prescription to be sent to another pharmacy as a 'one off'. [Further information on NHS Digital's website](#).

ReSPECT letter to GPs

Please read the attached letter from SECamb about ReSPECT (advance care planning) forms for the ambulance service.

Virtual Group Consultations Briefing Session

Dates: 21 or 23 July

Times: 1-2pm

(only required to attend ONE session)

The Experience Led Care Programme has been commissioned by NHSE/I to run a national training scheme for Virtual Group Clinics (formerly Group Consultations). We are pleased to be able to host two briefing sessions introducing Virtual Group Clinics.

As you may have been aware, Kent and Medway was planning a training programme for practices interested in delivering group consultations in April and many of you had signed up to the programme. Unfortunately, the programme was paused as a result of Covid-19, but now we have a fantastic new opportunity to roll it out virtually

Following attendance at the briefing session, practice teams can go on to join the national scheme which provides 2.5 hours of free online training. As part of a general practice nurse 10-point plan initiative, local participants can receive additional training and expert support to start their own groups.

The briefing is open to general practice nurses (GPN), practice and network managers, PCN clinical directors, GPN leads and others who have interest in finding out more about virtual group clinics across Kent and Medway such as

commissioners. The sessions will discuss the benefits to patients and staff and the practicalities of running groups. These sessions will also be recorded for people to view later if they cannot join live

To register your place to attend on one of the briefing sessions, please email either Adenike Omotayo adenikeomotayo@nhs.net or Sharon Lee sharonlee2@nhs.net to confirm your attendance. The sessions will be run via MS Teams.

A reminder email with link will be shared to those registered a few days prior to the events.

Respiratory issues and Covid-19 webinar

Date: Tuesday 7 July

Time: 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Registration FOC: thrombosisuk.org/findevent/hcp-events.php

1 CPD credit awarded.

Hosted and supported by Primary Care Cardiovascular Society & Thrombosis UK, this webinar is open to all healthcare and allied professionals but will be of particular interest to those working in general practice and the community, including care homes, and managing patients with a diagnosis or suspected history of Covid-19.

The live webinar will consider new challenges for primary care practitioners in the management of Covid-19 positive patients presenting with respiratory issues.

This webinar will consider:

- i. What is the pathway and action for primary care managing acute but not hospitalised thrombosis and patients late presenting with breathlessness?
- ii. Guidance on investigating and managing respiratory issues in a patient when acutely unwell with Covid-19.
- iii. Considerations for the management of asymptomatic / mildly unwell Covid-19 positive patients with a previous history of thrombosis.
- iv. General management of respiratory issues during recovery from Covid-19.

Infection Prevention & Control

Immunisation Training and Guidance

The national guidance on immunisation training during the pandemic has been [updated and can be accessed on the gov.uk website](#).

There is guidance available from Public Health England for [healthcare professionals on maintaining immunisation programmes](#) during the pandemic.

Workforce

Risk Assessments for At-risk Staff Groups

You may have already received a letter from NHS England and NHS Improvement about risk assessments for at-risk staff groups. The letter, attached for your convenience, contains a number of actions that are needed, including completing these assessments for this staff group within four weeks.