



Issue 72/Thursday, 11 March 2021

This is the latest round-up of information for GP practices, produced by South East London CCG. Should you have any questions or need advice, contact your local borough primary care team in the first instance; they will escalate anything they can't resolve to south east London's Coronavirus co-ordination centre.

Please check for any borough-specific information, which will be attached to this bulletin by your borough primary care commissioning team.

GP updates

Update on post-COVID syndrome assessment clinics in SEL

Specialist post-COVID syndrome assessment clinics are to be delivered by King's Health Partners in SEL. As directed by NHS England & NHS Improvement, these clinics are specifically assessing patients who are experiencing signs and symptoms following an infection consistent with Covid-19, that have continued after more than 12 weeks and are not explained by an alternative diagnosis.

As demand created by the second wave of the pandemic reduces, the clinics will be open for referrals and assessment using a phased approach:

- King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill / Tessa Jowell Health Centre clinics now open for referrals
- GSTT, St Thomas' clinic will open Friday, 1 April
- King's PRUH clinics, date to be confirmed

Clinics can be found on eRS as 'post-COVID assessment clinic' and have been split into either respiratory or neurological symptoms.

Referrals will be triaged by the receiving Trust and will be redirected by said Trust if required.

Referrals should be directed to clinics depending on predominant symptoms as indicated below:

- Post-COVID respiratory assessment clinic: patients with ongoing significant respiratory symptoms lasting more than three months from either proven

or clinically suspected Coronavirus infections.

- Post-COVID neurology/neuropsychiatry assessment clinic: patients with ongoing significant neurologic and neuropsychiatric symptoms, such as headache, dizziness, memory or cognitive difficulties and/or significant constitutional symptoms (fatigue, lethargy and body aches) lasting more than three months from either proven or clinically suspected Coronavirus infections.

To find the service on eRS, GPs can use the following criteria:

Speciality: Respiratory

Clinic Type: Not otherwise specified

Location: Kings @ Tessa Jowell Centre

Service Name: Post-COVID respiratory assessment @ TJHC (for King's College Hospital – RJZ)

Speciality: Neurology

Clinic Type: Not otherwise specified

Location: Denmark Hill King's College Hospital

Service Name: Post-COVID neurology/neuropsychiatry assessment clinics @ DH (for King's College Hospital – RJZ)

Please ensure that prior to identifying patients for assessment in the specialist clinics, all the relevant referral information and investigations (bloods, CXR etc) are complete to prevent rejected referrals or missed diagnoses.

GPs can also direct patients to <https://www.yourcovidrecovery.nhs.uk/> for general support and information.

LMC advice on responding to the DNAR Freedom of Information request

Under the QOF Quality Improvement requirements for 2020/21, GP practices are required to review their list of patients with learning disabilities to identify those recorded as DNAR and to confirm that record remains appropriate or amend accordingly.

An FOI request has been sent to practices across the country as follows:

“For the GP practices within your primary care network, please can you tell me how many patients with learning disabilities were recorded as DNAR, and how many patient records have been amended to remove this DNAR. If possible, please also give the age of each patient. If it does not push this request over the cost limit, please supply figures for the last five years”

London-wide LMC has provided helpful advice on responding to this FOI request:

The advice from the GPC is that practices may wish to respond to say that the QI modules have been deprioritised and income protected and link to the relevant [NHSE&I letter](#) (therefore the data is incomplete/inaccurate because of the changes made to support practices in managing the pandemic), and ask if they still wish to receive this data.

N.B. This does not absolve practices of their responsibility to provide the data requested. If they still want the data, practices do have to provide it.

It is important to remember that practices do not have to create new information to satisfy an FOI request (i.e. they don't have to do the QI module in order to provide the information). If the data requested (number of patients with learning disabilities recorded as DNAR, numbers that have been amended to remove this DNAR, and the age of each patient) can be ascertained from existing data, practices must provide it. However,

practices may want to give additional information to provide context around the data (e.g. reviews have not been carried out for all patients as this work has been deprioritised by NHSE&I for most of the year).

If identifying the information and creating the response would be over the appropriate threshold of 18 hours work, then the FOI can be politely rejected.

Patients with previous gestational diabetes receiving letters advising them to shield

You may already be aware that women with previous gestational diabetes have been sent a letter recommending that they shield.

Some women with previous GDM have been moved in to the CEV group because of their relative risk compared to women of the same age. The GDM and QCovid risk score has been used to identify women with GDM based on their relative risk rather than absolute risk and would include other factors such as BMI, ethnicity etc.

[National guidance steps](#) can be used to advise patients who may contact you for advice.

New National Diabetes Prevention Programme (NDPP Framework 2)

- [New NDPP2 referral form](#) uploaded to DXS
- NHSE/I update - [FAQs on expansion of eligibility](#) to include normoglycaemic women with previous gestational diabetes
- [Updated GP information sheet](#)
- [Updated patient information sheet](#)

See below for additional information from the provider, including information about the new NDPP Framework 2.

ICS Health & Wellbeing became Xyla Health & Wellbeing, part of Acacium Group.

What does this mean?

A rebrand of supporting documents and [a new website](#). This will not affect any branding of the NDPP or contracts.

New Referral Form

With the new framework comes a new referral form plus a GDM additional field (info below).

What does this mean?

You will notice a slight change in the NDPP referral form, which have been tested within the site and are being uploaded to clinical systems across south London.

GDM

Expansion of the programme eligibility criteria to include women with a past diagnosis of gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) and a normoglycaemic blood reading within the last 12 months (temporarily extended to 24 months until 1 April 2021).

What does this mean?

On the referral form, the criteria information has an additional GDM measure, plus an added field (Yes or No) to state whether the patient has ever had GDM. [See FAQs.](#)

Direct to consumer & self-referral pathways

With the added challenges of Covid-19 on primary care, promotion of DTC and self-referral pathways will alleviate pressure.

What does this mean?

DTC pathway is fit for use until end of March 2021.

See promotional pack with [Know Your Risk resources](#) which include images with associated text, patient feedback and a short video.

Some of the content has been obtained from the [Public Health England, Healthier You resources website.](#)

Time to talk and safe spaces for primary care staff in south east London

In addition to programmes for practice managers and nurses, there are wellbeing and creativity groups for primary care staff across the six boroughs running throughout the week, including evenings. More relevant webinars and events will be available in the coming weeks. [Information and resources on Doctors in Distress website.](#)

- [Lunchtime wellbeing seminars](#) for all practice staff in SEL
- [Wellbeing and creativity groups](#) at various times and for all practice staff in SEL
- [Time to Talk support groups for practice nurses](#), eight-week daytime programme
- [Time to Talk support groups for practice managers](#), eight-week daytime programme

Flexibility will be built into future programmes. A programme evaluation will be shared at the end of the project, including best time of day to maximise attendance.

Launch of the new Datix Quality Alert reporting system from 1 April 2021

The new system incorporates feedback received from GPs and healthcare practitioners where the system allows. [See an outline of the new process.](#)

Preconception care resources for women with serious mental illness (SMI)

These resources were designed to inform the practice of professionals working in primary care settings with women with SMI.

The resources support conversations about healthy pregnancies in routine clinical contacts. Further information below:

- [A preconception resource for health care professionals working with women with SMI](#)

- **Preconception resources for women with SMI to help plan healthy pregnancies**

[A website hub](#)

[A pregnancy planning tool](#)

[Information animation](#)

[Instagram live discussion with Professor Louise Howard and Rosie from MIND](#)

Please contact [Katie Atmore](#) for any queries relating to the above resources.

Covid-19 vaccine advice to LVS centres and GP practices for individuals with previous allergic reactions

South East London CCG have prepared a local resource to support primary care staff with the review of patients who have had a previous allergic reaction. The resource also provides guidance for managing patients who experience an allergic reaction to the first dose of their COVID-19 vaccine. [Please see the link to the guidance](#) for further information.

London Learning Disability Covid-19 vaccine information pack and resources

[Information pack](#) developed with the support of the London Learning Disability Leadership Network, [Covid-19 vaccine Learning Disability resources](#) and [guidance on accessibility and reasonable adjustment](#) for individuals with severe learning disabilities and challenging behaviour.

Referrals to Independent Sector Healthcare Providers (ISHPs)

As the number of long waiting patients have increased significantly, due to the recent wave of Covid-19, the CCG is committed to delivering equitable access for all SEL patients across acute facilities. For 2021/22, there is limited independent sector capacity being made available for NHS patients and the CCG and acute providers are working closely with independent sector providers to ensure that patients who have spent a significant length of time on Trust waiting lists or have an urgent need for surgery, are transferred to private providers, so that they can be treated as quickly as possible.

Although it is recognised that GPs can refer directly to independent sector providers, GPs are urged to consider this carefully before doing so, to help maximise the limited capacity and treat the longest waiting and most urgent patients.

Online tool to help with health inclusion

This online [tool](#) can help your Primary Care Network assess its engagement with Inclusion Health groups. These are the groups identified as experiencing the worst health inequalities in the UK.

Once you have completed the self-assessment, you will be provided with a tailored guide to support your Primary Care Network to embed action on tackling health inequalities into its everyday activities.

Standard operating procedure ('SOP') update

Please find attached the [latest 'SOP' \(V4.1\)](#) for general practices in the context of coronavirus.

All changes from the last edition have been highlighted for ease of reference.

Easter 2021, [Bank Holiday London-wide pharmacy opening](#)

[Covid-19 vaccine adverse events: how to report](#)

Events

Learning disabilities and the Covid-19 vaccine

The South East London CCG learning disability and autism team has invited Richard Keegan-Bull and Lisa Lye to share their experiences of having the Covid-19 vaccine.

People with learning disabilities, autism, and their families and carers resident in south east London, are all invited to join the sessions via Zoom on:

Thursday 11 March - 2 to 3pm

Friday 12 March - 3 to 4pm

To book click [here](#)

NHS 'People Festival'

NHSEI London Health & Wellbeing team is excited to announce the 'NHS People Festival'. Every day in March events are taking place for all London NHS staff, including: African storytelling; stressbuster exercise class; seated exercise class; comedy, magic, plus much more. You can book [here](#)

Covid-19 testing

Weekly update on staff Covid-19 testing

Latest [update](#) on testing for primary care staff in south east London. (Updated 26 February 2021).

Webinars, conferences and e-Learning

Primary Care Dermatology Society ('PCDS') conference

This year's virtual PCDS conference is being held 13 to 14 March 2021.

Highlights include:

Lessons from a tricky eczema clinic;
Paraneoplastic presentations;
Covid-19 skin presentations;
Tropical and HIV medicine;
Asian skin concerns; and
Adverse drug reactions.

Full programme and [booking information here](#)

CAMHS mental health courses as part of Our Healthier South East London programme

These courses are free to attend for anyone working in south east London. Please ensure you fit the criteria for the course before booking. To book a place, simply enter the password: **HEEOHSEL**

Simulation training at the mental physical interface - children and young people (SWAMPI-CYP). This is a one-day multi-professional course aimed at paediatric trainees (ST1-ST8), GP trainees and foundation doctors, paediatric nurses and allied health professionals, CAMHS practitioners, including nurses and allied health professionals and psychiatry trainees (core or higher). It is suitable for clinicians involved in the management of young people with physical and mental health co-morbidity in the general hospital setting. [18/3/2021](#)

Working in inpatient CAMHS: The challenges and effective ways forward. This course provides an overview of mental health problems that typically present within inpatient CAMHS wards and effective approaches to intervention. If you work in or refer into inpatient CAMHS and would like to improve your understanding of work in this area, you are encouraged to join this course. [16/3/2021](#) or [23/3/2021](#)

Electronic repeat dispensing (eRD) training webinar for GP practices and community pharmacies in SEL CCG

A collaborative eRD project between general practice and community pharmacy is about to begin across SEL. The main aim is to facilitate an increase in eRD rates. A SEL-wide webinar will launch the project on Wednesday, 24 March 1pm-2pm. [Please click here to join.](#)

[See flyer for more information.](#)

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

A [link](#) to list of the webinars they have planned for 2021. (Updated 2 March 2021)

CAMHS Courses

Maudsley Learning are running a series of CAMHS Courses commissioned as part of the 'Our Healthier South East London' programme.

Attached is a [flyer](#) with information about the course which runs on 31 March.

On 25 March, as part of the same series, they're running a course aimed at helping GPs prevent suicide among patients in primary care, [all details in this flyer](#).

Information from acute providers

e-RS update

The latest versions of the documents outlining changes to referrals at our acute hospitals are below. Latest updates and key messages to practices are in red:

[NEW GSTT Acute \(updated 2 March 2021\)](#)

Cancer updates

Please read: [South east London cancer update for GPs](#)

South East London Cancer Alliance

Latest version of the update below, which also includes some FAQs for primary care on cancer services in south east London to support GPs and patients during the pandemic.

[NEW Cancer updates for GPs \(1 March 2021\)](#)

SEL Cancer Alliance has also started a weekly drop in Q&A session for primary care every Thursday 1-1.30pm.

[Here is a link to join the sessions](#)

Also links to the [latest SELCA webinars](#) and [catch up here on previous ones](#)

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