



Issue 104/Wednesday 20 October 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.

COVID-19

COVID-19 staff testing and reporting

Regular antigen testing of all practice staff is critical to protect staff and patients and slow the spread of Covid-19. Staff testing is vital - even after vaccination. ALL test results regardless of outcome must be reported. Find out more [here](#) in our weekly update.

GP updates

Supply shortage of Asacol® 800mg MR gastro-resistant tablets

Asacol® 800mg MR g/r tabs are currently out of stock and the date of resupply is not confirmed. The 400mg tablets of Asacol® remain available, however cannot support full demand for the Asacol® 800mg strength tablets.

Therefore, oral Asacol® MR may be switched to Octasa® MR, as it is the locally preferred preparation of mesalazine included within the South East London Joint Medicines Formulary. Additionally, both Octasa® MR 400mg and 800mg tablets remain available. Other oral preparations of mesalazine should not be considered interchangeable and switching to these preparations in primary care is not normally recommended.

Please see the following links for further information:

- [Primary & Secondary Care Inflammatory Bowel Disease Pathway](#)
 - [SPS Pharmacy service: Differences between the various brands of mesalazine tablets](#)
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Depot antipsychotics use in primary care questionnaire

Use of depot antipsychotics reduces the likelihood of hospital admission and contact with crisis services. However, not all patients may want to continue to attend mental health centres to receive depot injections and would prefer to attend their GP surgery. Shared care agreements are in place for some depot treatments, but data indicates these are not always readily accepted.

SLAM has produced an antipsychotic depot prescribing questionnaire aimed at helping SLAM, OXLEAS and SEL CCG understand the barriers to antipsychotic depot use in primary care, with the aim of increasing confidence in prescribing of these medications.

GP practice staff are asked to kindly complete the short [questionnaire](#). Responses will be collected and processed automatically by SLAM colleagues.

The closing date for responses is **12th November 2021**.

Applications for Next Generation GP London 2021/22 are open

[Next Generation GP](#) is a nationally expanding and fully funded programme that seeks to inspire emerging future leaders in General Practice. For GP trainees and early career GPs with an interest in health policy and the wider NHS. Applications will be accepted from doctors based in London who have never participated in the programme before.

Applications close 5 November 2021 at 17:00. Apply [here](#).

Data Security and Protection Toolkit – Access to systems

A reminder to complete an audit of your staff access controls and user accounts and ensure the list you maintain is up to date. Read more [here](#).

Call for members - Learning Disability Annual Health Check Facilitation Network

If you or any of your colleagues have a role in supporting LD AHC's as a health facilitator either as part of your/their day to work; such as being a GP link worker as part of a community LD team, or as main employment and are keen to join this network please email carly.dalton@nhs.net.

The Learning Disability Annual Health Check Facilitation Network will meet initially on the 3rd Monday of the month from 3-4pm. The first meeting will take place on **Monday 15 November** via MS Teams and will be chaired by Carly Dalton Specialist Learning Disability Health Facilitator, Sutton Health and Care.

The initial meeting will be an opportunity to agree Terms of Reference for the Network. The Network will share learning, ideas, and challenges in relation to LD Annual Health Checks.

New website to support BGL practices with pathology service transfer

As the transfer of pathology services in Bexley, Greenwich and Lewisham draws nearer, a dedicated microsite to ensure practices have information to support them has been created.

The site is due to go live by the end of Wednesday 20 October and includes information including test repertoire details, IT systems, courier specimen collection times and how to contact the pathology support service for help.

Access the microsite here: <https://sel.synlab.co.uk/bgl/>

Reminder - Two virtual 'drop-in' Q&A sessions will give GP practices and colleagues in community care services another chance to speak directly to the NHS and Viapath.

- **Thursday 21 October – 12.00 to 13.00** [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- **Wednesday 27 October – 14.00 to 15.00** [Click here to join the meeting](#)

In addition, a series of 'e-briefs' are being issued to those practices directly affected by the October 29 transfer of pathology services, to help provide them with the information and support they need.

Have your say on the future of Digital Health in London

[DigitalHealth.London](#) are celebrating their fifth birthday and are currently developing a Manifesto. This will bring together reflections from the last five years in digital health as well as visions for the future. They want to hear from you about your experiences of using digital technology in your work, the challenges you experience in using digital tools and your thoughts on the future of tech in the NHS - please complete this anonymous [15-minute survey](#) to have your opinions heard.

e-Dec Collection – collection window open

The collection window for the 2021 General Practice Annual Electronic Self-Declaration (eDec) opened to receive submissions on **Monday 18 October 2021**.

Please note that all practices are required to submit their practice eDEC through SDCS, the link to login is [here](#). The guidance available [here](#) for detailed instructions on how to register and access the eDec. The deadline for submitting the eDec will be **Friday 26 November 2021**.

In response to feedback through the GP bureaucracy review and to help further reduce associated burden of the collection, we have enhanced the collection to highlight revisions and new questions, there is also a new feature applied to catchment areas to help practice with branch sites to confirm their branch catchment areas.

If you have any difficulty completing the return or have any queries which are not covered in the guidance, please contact generalpractice.datacollections@nhs.net with 'eDEC' in the message subject line.

Joint Programme for Patient, Carer and Public Involvement in Covid Recovery – survey results

The Joint Programme for Patient, Carer and Public Involvement in Covid Recovery is a partnership between Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust - including Evelina London Children's Hospital and Royal Brompton and Harefield hospitals – and King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. It is funded by Guy's and St Thomas' Charity together with King's College Hospital Charity.

The programme has just published the results of a survey run by Ipsos MORI in May 2021 of 1,501 people about how they felt using their services during the pandemic, now and in the future. Full information, including key findings is available [here](#).

Information from Acute Providers

Consultant Connect advice line for General Paediatrics – service extends hours

From 1 July 2021, the advice line at Guy's and St Thomas' will be available from 9:00 to 19:00, Monday to Friday. Please call for urgent advice. Non-urgent advice is available via ERS or through your PCN child health team.

Cancer updates

Updated - South East London Cancer Alliance

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

[Cancer updates for GPs \(11 October 2021\)](#)

PSA Testing in Primary Care – Recommendation from the South East London Cancer Alliance Urology Tumour Group

Routine screening for prostate cancer is not a national policy because the benefits have not been [shown to clearly outweigh the harm](#).

Currently, in line with the Prostate Cancer Risk Management Programme (PCRMP) [published by Public Health England](#), the PSA test is available free to any asymptomatic patient with a prostate who is aged 50 and over who requests a test. Due to the ethnically diverse demographic of the South East London population, the SE London Urology Tumour Group strongly endorses the following principle:

GPs in Primary Care within South East London are encouraged to undertake opportunistic PSA testing on patients with a prostate who are a) aged 45 and over, and b) have either/both:

- A clear family history of prostate cancer
- Black / Caribbean ethnicity

Further information can be found on the SEL Cancer Alliance website [here](#).

Online seminars, webinars and e-Learning

Data security and Protection toolkit –training sessions

NEL CSU IG are holding training sessions to provide additional knowledge and skills in relation to the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT).

Training dates available as follows:

- **Information Asset Register (IAR)/Information Asset Owner (IAO) Training:**
Monday 29 November 12:00 – 13:00
- **Caldicott Training:** Tuesday 9 December 13:30 – 15:00

To book, please contact nelcsu.information-governance@nhs.net

Webinar - Self Care for Better Health Care

Compassionate leadership for Primary Care Leaders to improve resilience for yourself and your team and improve outcomes for your patients.

- **Monday 15 November 12:30 – 14.00.** More information and sign up [here](#):
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Free GP virtual events from GSTT

All talks count towards 1 CPD point. Certificates will be sent after the event.

Cow's milk allergy in children - Interactive virtual seminar where you will learn how to appropriately prescribe oral nutritional supplements and Cow's Milk Protein Allergy formulas. Questions will be taken at the end of the talk.

- **Friday 22 October 2021 - 13:30 to 14.30.** Register for the talk [here](#).

The high-risk foot – update for primary care - Learn about diagnosis, patient referrals and the management of diabetic foot and vascular disease. Questions will be taken at the end of the talk.

- **Friday 12 November 2021 - 13:30 to 14.30.** Register [here](#).

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