



Issue 126/Wednesday 23 March 2022

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.

Revocation of VCOD FAQs

Please see the latest set of FAQs from NHSEI and DHSC [here](#) and [here](#).

COVID-19 testing and reporting

We are still awaiting national guidance on staff testing and access to testing kits post 1st April. In the meantime, staff are asked to continue testing regularly and accessing and reporting lateral flow tests via the national portal.

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 and below:

Staff testing: Reminder that all staff vaccinated or unvaccinated, should still be undertaking twice weekly asymptomatic testing using lateral flow test kits obtained from the .gov website (See below) and reporting ALL results on the government website. This is still needed to protect staff, colleagues, family member and patients within their care. It is advised when reporting to set up an account, this makes it quicker to report subsequent test results as previous information is pre-populated. You can also scan the QR code on the test cartridge in cases where the text is too small to read easily.

Lateral flow test kits for vaccination sites: Please note that staff and volunteers should be accessing test kits via the national government website and should be testing and reporting before attending site. Order: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> and Report: [Report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/report-a-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-test-result). However, sites are still encouraged to hold a small supply for emergency use in cases where staff or volunteers turn up without having tested. Please let the SEL CCG Testing Team selccg.covidtesting@nhs.net know if you need any small supplies for emergency use and we will support obtaining a small number of kits from our Local Authority Partners.

PCR kits in surgeries: Reminder that GP practices should have a small stock of PCR kits for use in emergencies for staff or patients who present with possible covid symptoms. Assistance in ordering these can be made via the Specialist Team via 119. Please follow the link for information. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-testing-in-general-practice>

Changes to collection of lateral flow kits from local sites and pharmacies: Many collection sites are now requiring a 'collection code' before issuing up to 2 lateral flow test kits (7 tests in each box). The code can be obtained by following the information on the government website <https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/collect-lateral-flow-kits> to obtain a collect code via text and email. Alternatively, some collection points are displaying a QR code which can be scanned to access a form which once completed will generate a collect code.

Lateral flow Instructions in other languages: SEL have successfully managed to petition for the 3 main languages used by Afghanistan's to support the many other translations already available. These can now be found on the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-self-test-help>

Any testing questions please contact avril.satchwell@nhs.net Head of SEL CCG Covid Testing or the wider SEL Testing Team at selccg.covidtesting@nhs.net

GP Updates

Launch of SEL ICS decarbonisation guide for GP Practices

The NHS has committed that by 2040 the way that it operates will no longer have a carbon footprint. The South East London Integrated Care System is producing plans for how to make significant progress on this in the next three years.

Please read the [message](#) from Dr Andrew Parson GP Clinical Lead Bromley and Christina Windle Chief Operating Officer SEL CCG about the launch of the [new SEL ICS decarbonisation guide for GP Practices](#), which will help Primary Care make changes to their practices and buildings.

For more information on this and our wider sustainability plans, visit [Our Sustainability Commitment | Our Healthier South East London](#) or email sel.netzero@nhs.net

CQRS service offers for Vaccinations and Immunisations

The following Vaccination and Immunisation services have now been offered out to practices for participation:

- Childhood Immunisations Hexavalent (6-in-1) vaccination programme 2022-2025
- Hepatitis B at risk (newborn) babies vaccination programme 2022-2025
- HPV Completing Dose (Booster) vaccination 2022-2023
- Meningococcal ACWY Vaccination 2022-2025
- Meningococcal B Vaccination Programme 2022-2025
- MMR Vaccination Programme 2022-2025
- Pertussis in Pregnant women 2022-2025
- Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine (PCV) and Haemophilus influenzae type B, Meningitis C (Hib/MenC) Vaccination Programme 2022-2025
- Pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccination (PPV) programme 2022-2025
- Rotavirus (Routine Childhood Vaccination) 2022-2025
- Shingles Combined 2022-2025

Please note that apart from the HPV service, all offers are for a 3 year period. Therefore, once accepted, the offer will roll over each year and will not need to be re-offered/re-accepted. If any service changes are made during that time system suppliers will be notified and CQRS will be updated.

Please can practices accept the offers by 15th April 2022 to ensure that data is extracted when the scheduled extraction window opens.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind practices of the payment claims deadline of six months which is outlined in the Statement of Financial Entitlements and the Service Specifications. **September 2021 claims/amendments can still be made until 31/3/2022 after which time they will not be approved.** We ask all practices to urgently check their data in CQRS to ensure that all claims are up to date. This is particularly important as September 2021 is the first month for Seasonal Flu claims.

Information and guidance documents for each of the services can be found [here](#).

Information about the contract changes can be found on the [NHS England website](#).

Details of these services, including the live collections timetable can be found on the GP Collections website: <https://digital.nhs.uk/GP-collections>. Training links for how to offer out the service can be found on the CQRS [website](#). Please contact our team directly at england.londonimms@nhs.net with any queries.

Actions to be taken for QOF 2021/22 and QOF Offer on CQRS 2022/23

A reminder of actions that need to be taken in preparation for the year-end data extract for QOF 2021/22 and the QOF offer for 2022/23.

For QOF 2021/22, practices are required to carry out applicable actions in the QOF 21/22 year-end checklist by **30 March 2022** and the actions can be found by clicking on this site <https://welcome.cqrs.nhs.uk/service-information/quality-outcomes-framework-qof/> then the 'Quality Outcomes Framework (QOF) Year End Checklist'.

For IIF COV-01 2021/22, PCN's will need to tick the box in CQRS to confirm that they have created capacity for vaccinations, in order for this payment to be released.

For QOF for 2022/23, this was offered to all practices in CQRS and should now be available to you. To accept this, please log on to CQRS to accept the offer by **30 March 2022**. It is important that the offer is accepted by this day in order for the correct aspiration payments to be made for 2022/23. If you have any queries, please contact england.selprimarycarequeries@nhs.net.

QOF year-end 2021/22 and 22/23 update – action required

Preparation and actions for the 2021/22 year-end QOF collection must be completed by the deadlines indicated. This will enable us to collect your 2021/21 QOF achievement payments and calculate 2022/23 aspiration payments.

Action	Deadline
1. Ensure you are participating in QOF 21/22 on CQRS. Contact your commissioning organisation if you have not been offered QOF 21/22.	30th March 2022
2. Agree to participate in QOF 22/23 on CQRS. Practices should now see the offer in CQRS.	30th March 2022
3. Complete all the relevant actions in the QOF 2021/22 year-end checklist on our website.	30th March 2022

If you do not complete all actions above, your aspiration payment calculation will be affected and payment for April 2022 may be delayed.

Income Protected Indicators

A number of indicators will have credited points applied for the QoF Year End Achievement Calculation 2021/2022 as outlined in the [Temporary GP contract changes to support COVID-19 vaccination programme](#) letter issued to general practice in December 2021, these credited points will be summed with conditional points during the year end calculations and displayed within the Achievement Summary Report and Detailed Provider Achievement Report within CQRS. No action is required by the practice, this will be automated.

Training materials related to reporting in CQRS can be found on [training site](#).

QOF extract timetable

The below timetable shows the dates for the upcoming QOF year-end 21/22 extract

Extraction window	Thursday 1 st April to Sunday 4 th April
Achievement and Aspiration calculations	Monday 5 th to Tuesday 6 th April
Achievement available to view and declare in CQRS	Wednesday 7 th April

A further update will be provided by the National QOF team on Wednesday 7th April to inform practices if the data collection has been successful. It will also advise what action needs to be taken to receive payment if your data is not available in CQRS.

Achievement summary report

You will be notified when within the CQRS system once your practice's achievement has been calculated. Once complete, you are able to run the achievement summary report for QOF to view your achievement. Guidance is available in the FAQs on our website.

Year-end user support

If your query is not resolved through the year-end specific FAQs on our website, assistance is available:

CQRS Support Team: support@cqrs.co.uk, 0330 124 4039, 8am-6pm Mon-Fri (excl. bank holidays).

Contract/policy queries: england.gpcontracts@nhs.net (NHS England); Training: [CQRS Training](#); System: [CQRS log in](#); Web: [CQRS](#)

GP Pathology LGT Filtered Results Feed

We are pleased to let you know that the GP Pathology LGT filtered results feed will go live over the coming week.

This means appropriate GP direct access results from Viapath will now be available for LGT clinicians to review on LGT's Electronic Patient Record.

We know that some of you may have been contacted by LGT clinicians asking you to email GP direct access results to them. While we understand this may have caused some frustration, results have always been available via Connectcare since the BGL transfer from LGT to Viapath.

The filtered results feed will mean GP results will be visible in the LGT patient record, removing the need for LGT clinicians to contact practices for results. We hope this will help all concerned. If you have any queries about the filtered results feed, please do not hesitate to contact **Viapath pathology support services** on **0204 513 7300** or via customerservices@viapath.org

Viapath e-brief 16 March

Viapath e-brief for GP practices in Bexley, Greenwich and Lewisham is available [here](#).

2021/22 IIF PCN Support Payments – Declaration

As part of the December-21 updated Network Contract DES, some of the funding from suspended 2021-22 Investment and Impact (IIF) indicators has been re-purposed as a PCN Support Payment.

All PCNs are entitled to this payment subject to a very simple confirmation from the PCN that the funds will be reinvested into primary care medical services or workforce, which PCNs can access by clicking the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/r4GhKqkXaW>

In order to release this funding, we are now asking PCNs to confirm the below declaration by **Friday 8 April 2022**.

Once declared, NHS SEL CCG will then release 4 payments to the PCN for the period December 2021 - March 2022 on the next available payment run. These will appear on your statements as 4 separate payments to the PCN for ease of accounting purposes.

If PCNs are not able to meet the above deadline, then payments will be processed in the next available payment run once the declaration has been completed.

If you have any queries in relation to this payment or how to complete this declaration, then please contact england.selprimarycarequeries@nhs.net and a member of the team will be happy to support you.

Serious Shortage Protocol – Salazopyrin® 500mg tablets

A Serious Shortage Protocol (SSP) has been issued for Salazopyrin® 500mg tablets.

The SSP will enable community pharmacists in England and Wales to supply patients with sulfasalazine 500mg tablets. This is now available to view on the NHS Business Service Authority (BSA)'s dedicated SSP [web page](#), along with supporting guidance. The SSP came into effect on 16 March 2022 and is currently due to expire on Friday 25 March 2022. Should this change, the SSP will be updated accordingly and published on this page. If you have any questions regarding the SSPs please contact the NHS Prescription Service: nhsbsa.prescriptionservices@nhsbsa.nhs.uk

Telephone: 0300 330 1349, Textphone: 18001 0300 330 1349

Access the latest information about SSPs (including supporting guidance), [here](#).

Supply issue with Fluticasone 50microgram / Formoterol 5microgram per dose (Flutiform®) inhaler CFC free

Please find attached a [Medicine Supply Notification](#) for: A Tier 3 medicine supply notification for Fluticasone 50microgram / Formoterol 5microgram per dose (Flutiform®) inhaler CFC free

Medicine	Out of stock	Alternatives
Fluticasone 50microgram / Formoterol 5microgram per dose (Flutiform®) inhaler CFC free	Until mid-April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fluticasone 50microgram / Salmeterol 25microgram per dose (Combisal®) inhaler CFC free. Fluticasone 50microgram / Salmeterol 25microgram per dose (Seretide Evohaler®) inhaler CFC free. If the above options are not considered suitable, other combination steroid/ LABA inhalers are available. See MSN for further details.

DHSC and NHSE/I have now launched an online [Medicines Supply Tool](#), which provides up to date information about medicine supply issues. The contents of these MSNs can now be viewed on the Tool. To access the Tool you will be required to register with the [SPS website](#). If you have any queries contact: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk

Supply issue with multiple products (Tier 2 MSNs and Tier 3 MSN)

Please see below Medicine Supply Notifications for:

- [A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Diltiazem \(Tildiem Retard®\) 90mg tablets](#)
- [A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Diamorphine 100mg and 500mg powder for solution for injection ampoules](#)
- [A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Timolol \(Tiopex®\) 1mg/g gel eye drops 0.4g unit dose preservative free](#)
- [A Tier 3 medicine supply notification for Benperidol \(Anquil®\) 250microgram tablets](#)
- [A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Oxybutynin \(Kentera®\) 3.9mg/24hour transdermal patches](#)
- [A Tier 2 medicine supply notification for Sulfasalazine \(Salazopyrin®\) 500mg tablets](#)

If you have any queries please contact: DHSCmedicinesupplyteam@dhsc.gov.uk

Medicine	Out of stock	Alternatives
Diltiazem (Tildiem Retard®) 90mg tablets	Until w/c 11 th April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adizem® SR 90mg capsules Angitil® SR 90mg capsules
Diamorphine 100mg and 500mg powder for solution for injection ampoules	Until late May 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All morphine preparations remain available and can support an increase in demand during this time. See MSN for further details.
Timolol (Tiopex®) 1mg/g gel eye drops 0.4g unit dose preservative free	Until late March 2022.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timolol (Eysano®) 2.5mg/ml and 5mg/ml preservative free eye drops in multi-dose bottles. Timolol 2.5mg/ml and 5mg/ml eye drops containing a preservative also remain available.

Benperidol (Anquil®) 250microgram tablets	Out of stock from the end of March 2022 with a resupply date to be confirmed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management options during this shortage should be determined on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the appropriate mental health specialist.
Oxybutynin (Kentera®) 3.9mg/24hour transdermal patches	Until w/c 30th May 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oxybutynin 2.5mg and 5mg standard release tablets Oxybutynin 2.5mg/5ml and 5mg/5ml oral solution Solifenacin 5mg and 10mg standard release tablets Solifenacin 1mg/ml oral suspension Tolterodine 1mg and 2mg standard release tablets Tolterodine 2mg and 4mg XL capsules Mirabegron (Betmiga®) 25mg and 50mg prolonged-release tablets
Sulfasalazine (Salazopyrin®) 500mg tablets	Until w/c 21 March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generic versions of sulfasalazine 500mg tablets. A Serious Shortage Protocol has been issued. See MSN for further details.

Notice of change to service from Department of Clinical Gerontology at Denmark Hill

Nicky Hayes, Consultant Nurse for Older People, is retiring and therefore we must make changes to our patient pathway for Parkinsons' disease. We are aware that some GPs referred to this service directly via email to Nicky. This pathway will change from mid-March 2022. All referrals **must** be made via eRS to the Neurogeriatric clinic. Please use the Movement Disorders dropdown box on the system to book. See [attached letter](#) for more information.

Urgent reminder for general practices on how to initiate nephrology referrals

General Practices are required to **complete and submit the latest Nephrology referral form via DXS** prior to making patient referrals on Electronic Referral System (eRS), as GSTT and KCH are sending quality alerts via the CCG route as they are still receiving several incorrect referral forms (older versions) from GP practices which is causing referral processing delays and also causing patient care delays.

If you require further assistance on this please contact the local GP IT Facilitator for on nelcsu.gpitsouthlondonfacilitators@nhs.net for Southwark, Lambeth and Lewisham practices only.

Tool to support diagnosis and care management of Asthma and COPD

The [Pan-London Respiratory Dashboard](#) links up-to-date information in relation to the diagnosis and care management for people with Asthma and COPD from across the region, which can be visualised at a practice, Primary Care Network (PCNs) or Integrated Care System (ICS) level. Read more [here](#).

Amiodarone (Cordarone X): reminder of risks of treatment and need for patient monitoring and supervision

Amiodarone has been associated with serious and potentially life-threatening side effects, particularly of the lung, liver, and thyroid gland. Lung problems may have slow onset but then progress rapidly.

Healthcare professionals are therefore advised to:

- Review patients regularly on long-term amiodarone treatment – some of these reactions may be life-threatening but onset can be delayed
- Check liver and thyroid function before treatment, and at 6-monthly intervals; thyroid function should also be monitored for several months after discontinuation
- Although routine lung imaging is not necessary in patients taking amiodarone long-term, make patients aware of the need to seek advice if they have new or worsening respiratory symptoms and consider using computerised tomography (CT) scans if pulmonary toxicity is suspected
- Report suspected adverse drug reactions associated with amiodarone on a [Yellow Card](#)

Please see the drug safety [update](#) for further information and for advice healthcare professionals are asked to give to patients and carers.

Maintaining Education to Support Training Recovery

Please see the attached [NHSE/I letter](#) from 22 March.

London's NHS leaders unite in showing support to staff affected by violence and aggression from patients

NHS leaders across London held a summit on Monday 21st March to discuss potential reasons for abuse and share preventative measures, as well as show solidarity in supporting all those affected. [An open letter](#) has also been published, signed by CEOs at every London hospital and ICS (Integrated Care System), thanking the majority of patients who show support to NHS staff but also advising that violence and aggression will not be tolerated. Read more [here](#).

Clinical Effectiveness South-East London Newsletter

[CESEL team update](#), includes details of their ongoing work and to raise awareness of their improvement tools and support offer to colleagues in general practice.

Lambeth GP commended at the Mind and Body Awards

Lambeth GP Dr Di Aitken received runner-up under the Care in the Community category at the King's Health Partners Mind & Body Awards last week. Read more [here](#).

Lessons Learnt from Quality Alerts - March Edition

March edition of [‘You said, we did.’](#)

Cancer updates

Cervical Cancer Screening Lab Turnaround Times Delays

The Cervical Screening London (CSL) Lab is reporting delays of up to 3 weeks for HPV+ve Cytology Abnormal cases, which need to be reported by consultants.

Further detail is included in this attached [urgent communication](#). CSL is working urgently to provide additional capacity to manage the backlog of cases and reduce waiting times.

SEL CCG and SEL Cancer Alliance representatives are working closely with partners in CSL and the London Cervical Cancer Screening Programme to support these mitigation efforts, and continue to advocate on behalf of SEL clinicians and patients on the seriousness of this issue and the urgency with which it needs to be resolved.

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 22 March 2022](#).

Information from Acute Providers

Reminder - From KCH – Long COVID referrals

The details required for a CXR prior to referral to long COVID clinic, or for a query of long COVID must contain at least the following:

- Respiratory related symptoms detailed (non-respiratory symptoms do not justify a CXR);
- How long after the patient had COVID that they have been experiencing these symptoms (less than 4 weeks is not long COVID and will be rejected);
- if the referral is for respiratory long COVID.

Seminars, events, webinars and e-learning

Covid recovery: waiting for treatment and care workshops

Workshops from LSBU, GSTT and KCH designed to improve services for people waiting for treatment in terms of supporting self-management and designing services.

[Waiting for First Appointment: Cardiology - 20 April - 11.45 to 15.00](#)

[Waiting for First Appointment: Cancer- 21 April – 11.45 to 15.00](#)

[Waiting for Treatment: Ophthalmology - 27 April - 11.45 to 15.00](#)

[Waiting for Treatment: Orthopaedics - 28 April - 11.45 to 15.00](#)

[Waiting for Work Up: Children and Young People 4 May - 11.45 to 15.00](#)

SE Genomics Spring Online Festival

Festival to celebrate the first year of the SE Genomic Medicine Service Alliance and share how Genomics is impacting patient care in Cardiovascular, Neurology and Renal.

Thursday 31 March from 12.00 to 14.00. Register [here](#).

London General Practice Nurse celebration event

In person celebration for all primary care nurses in London.

24 June – 09.15 to 16.30 at Regents Park. More information [here](#).

Webinar – Digital Journey Planner

The London Digital First team are hosting a webinar for GP Practices, and PCNs to showcase the [Digital Journey Planner](#). Includes Q&A.

31st March 2022 – via MS Teams. [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Medicines and Prescribing Network - Malnutrition and Appropriate Prescribing of Oral Nutritional Supplements

Thursday 7 April 2022 - 13.00 to 14.00. On MS teams - [Click here to join the meeting](#)

More information is available [here](#). The last webinar was a “Medicines Information Resources Training session.” The recording and presentation slides are [here](#).

Webinar for people with lived experience of musculoskeletal conditions - 29 or 31 March 2022

SELCCG are keen to seek the views of people with lived experience of MSK. Please share with your networks.

Tuesday 29 March 13.00 to 14.00 – [Book on Eventbrite](#)

Thursday 31 March 18.00 to 19.00 – [Book on Eventbrite](#)

Resources

Reminder - Public facing guidance for spring booster

People aged 75 years and older, residents in care homes for older people, and those aged 12 years and over with a weakened immune system will be offered a spring booster of coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine. Public facing guidance is available [here](#).

Spring booster communications toolkit

Includes FAQ, links to updated guidance and materials. Available [here](#).

British Menopause Society toolkit

The [BMS PPMC Resources Toolkit](#) provides a comprehensive range of evidence-based, peer reviewed resources that answer the key questions in menopause care, diagnosis and management. It also includes videos, consensus statements, infographics, tools for healthcare professionals and fact sheets for women, all free to access.

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