



Issue 131/ Thursday 28 April 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.

Reminder – SEL CCG Guidance for dealing with protestors at vaccination centres

In light of recent reports of 'anti-vax' activity at COVID-19 vaccination sites, please see attached [guidance](#) for clinics and pop ups in the event of protestors attending any of our sites.

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) standard operating procedure: symptomatic and asymptomatic staff testing

Please see the document [here](#).

COVID-19 testing and reporting

Key Messages: Primary Care Focus

["Living with COVID19"](#) Guidance (Letter 30 March 2022) sets out the approach to delivering the UK Health Security Agency's (UKHSA) advice in relation to staff and patient testing. Although the public will not be offered COVID-19 tests routinely if symptomatic, there may be some instances where a clinician will want to offer a COVID-19 test as part of a diagnostic pathway.

All incident/outbreak testing should be using PCRs and advised by a local IPC team or following public health advice.

Patients

Planned elective admissions should be tested using LFDs, in advance of admission with tests via the gov.uk portal where they will be asked to confirm that they have a planned upcoming admission. Day cases who are fully vaccinated do not need to test.

Community or primary care patients requiring a test by a clinician to support clinical decisions during their care and treatment pathway should be offered a lateral flow device (LFD) test as part of their usual diagnostic pathway. Patients should be directed to the gov.uk website to order their tests, where they will be asked to confirm that their clinician has requested this and report via the same portal.

Patients eligible for COVID-19 treatments through a COVID Medicines Delivery Unit (CMDU) (nMAB/Antiviral treatments) will now need to use an LFD Test, which will be supplied to them by UKHSA, for use at home if they have symptoms of COVID-19.

A small proportion of patients testing positive who haven't been automatically contacted by a CMDU for assessment and treatment may need to be referred by GP practices and 111.

You can refer potentially eligible patients if they have tested positive via a PCR test or any LFD test. You can refer patients to the local CMDU using the electronic Referral Service (eRS) or the locally agreed alternative if applicable.

NOTE: One of the treatment options – nirmatrelvir+ritonavir (Paxlovid) – has multiple potential drug interactions so inclusion of the patient's medications in the referral is vital.

Staff

Asymptomatic NHS patient facing staff should continue to test twice weekly, with kits via gov.uk portal. All Symptomatic NHS staff should test themselves using LFDs. Staff who test positive should continue to follow the current return to work guidance – Testing neg x 2 occasions (24 hours apart) post 5 days.

Staff who are household contacts of a positive COVID-19 case and are asymptomatic can return to work but continue to test twice weekly. They will no longer be required to have a PCR test to return to work but should discuss working arrangements with their line manager as it can take up to 10 days for your infection to develop, during which it is possible to pass on COVID-19 to others, even if you have no symptoms.

Staff should undertake COVID-19 tests on an ad hoc basis if instructed by their employer or director of public health in specific circumstances. Staff will be notified via their line management structure if this applies to them.

ASC and Supportive Living and Care Homes:

Most visitors will no longer be required to take a test. Only visitors providing personal care should test before visiting but not more than twice a week. NHS staff in care homes should provide evidence of a negative testing within last 72 hours. Other visiting professionals should be tested with tests provided by the care home if they are providing personal care as per the guidance for visitors providing personal care.

Residents admitted from the community, or another care setting should take a PCR test within 72 hours before they are admitted or an LFD if covid positive within the last 90 days. These tests should be provided by the care home.

The Government will continue to provide free symptomatic testing for individuals who live or work in high-risk closed settings, for example in some NHS, Social Care, care homes, supportive living, and Prisons (and other Places of Detention) settings where infection needs to be identified quickly to minimise outbreaks.

Lateral Flow Test Kits for NHS Staff on Vaccination Sites:

Please note that NHS staff should be accessing test kits via the national government website and should be testing and reporting before attending site.

More information on living with Covid-19 can be found on the government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-next-steps-for-living-with-covid>

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

Expressions of Interest invited: clinical leadership and committee member roles for the South East London Integrated Care Board

Expressions of interest are being invited from colleagues in clinical and care professions to join the Integrated Care Board leadership team. We have a number of opportunities across a wide range of key programme areas operating in south east London. Roles are usually one or two sessions per week and can be agreed on a flexible basis. There are currently roles available in the following areas:

- planned care
- long term conditions, diabetes, and obesity
- learning disabilities and autism
- urgent care and emergency care

Details of all available roles including job descriptions are available on the [SEL CCG Clinical and Care Leadership recruitment webpage](#). Contact details for all roles are also included on the website if you would like to discuss or require further information.

Please share with colleagues who may be interested in applying.

UKHSA - increase in scarlet fever and chickenpox incidence and outbreaks in England

Please see [attached information](#) regarding the increase in chickenpox and scarlet fever and risk of iGAS where there is co circulating infection, along with recommendations.

FLU vaccines for 2022/23 season – message from London Region Immunisation Team

Following the NHSE/I [letter](#) on flu vaccine reimbursement which advised the vaccines to be reimbursed for the 2022/23 flu season, we are writing to stress that QIVc and QIVr are the recommended first line vaccines for under 65s at risk and pregnant women.

QIVe may only be given where there is no QIVc or QIVr available to order. Seqirus are still taking orders for QIVc and Sanofi for QIVr, therefore you should ensure that you place orders for this stock. Please also note that for the over 65 age cohort, the recommended vaccine is aQIV so you should ensure you have sufficient stock for this group. The annual flu [letter](#) makes it clear that General Practice must make a 100% offer to all eligible cohorts.

Please contact your CCG flu lead if you have any queries

Early May Bank Holiday Pharmacy rota list (London wide)

Please find [attached a list of pharmacies](#) opening as part of the commissioned Rota for the Early May Bank Holiday 2 May 2022. Saturday 30 April 2022 is not a Bank Holiday, however, there will be some pharmacies who normally open who will be closed on this day. Therefore, we also ask patients to check NHS.UK or call NHS111 if they wish to double check their usual pharmacy will be open on this date.

PHE NHS Breast Screening Programme - advice and information for GP practices

A reminder that women are sent their initial screening invitations sometime between their 50th and before their 53rd birthday. The screening helpdesk continue to receive queries regarding correct age of eligibility and GPs should give the appropriate messages on when screening commences. An e-learning module on the breast screening programme produced by the British Medical Journal (BMJ) in collaboration with the NHS Breast Screening Programme is available to access for all primary care staff [here](#).

Information Governance team contact details

As part of the transition of London Shared Services staff into South East London CCG, the way you contact your Data Protection Officer will be changing. From 1st April 2022, please use the following email address: selccg.gpdpo@nhs.net

UPDATE: Dietitian Led-SEL Non-IgE Cow's Milk Allergy Rapid Access Clinic (patients with delayed symptoms)

The SEL Prescribing Support Dietetic service runs a weekly Non-IgE Cows' Milk Allergy Rapid Access Clinic (SEL CMA RAC) telephone clinic. This clinic helps to support GPs with the diagnosis and management of patients with **suspected non-IgE CMA (delayed symptoms)**.

The team have now simplified our referral form and included a new tool to support GP's undertake CMA assessment (Allergy Focused Clinical Form). We would encourage that the referral form is completed during your consultation.

- Please refer as soon as you suspect non-IgE CMA in your patients.
- **Refer via e-RS only.** Our service is listed under Speciality: Dietetics, Clinic Type: Food Allergy and Intolerance.
- The referral form can be found under SEL CCG subscription: Nutrition and Dietetics/Referral on DXS. (document number SEL1321)

If you have any questions, please contact us gst-tr.prescribingsupportdietitians@nhs.net

Primary Care sustainability - reminder to complete Sustrans EOI by Friday

This is a reminder for any PCNs who might be interested in improving active travel of staff by working with Sustrans, to submit [an Expression Of Interest \(EOI\)](#) by this Friday 28th April. Please note, there is no need to work out any details of how the arrangement might work, and if you are in doubt about any of the form or process, please submit an EOI and ask for further information/ a discussion. We look forward to receiving as many EOIs as possible.

Information from Acute Providers

GSTT- Menopause clinic – change of name on e-RS

The Gynaecology service have requested that the service name for the existing Early Menopause clinic on e-RS is changed to: **Premature Ovarian Insufficiency Clinic (Under 40)**.

The service can still be located by GPs with the existing criteria:

Speciality: Gynaecology

Clinic Type: Menopause

Cancer updates

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 27 April 2022](#).

Seminars, events, webinars and e-learning

GP online education event – Deep Venous

A practical overview of deep venous disease, how it can be managed in Primary Care and referral options for Deep Venous.

Wednesday 25th May, 13:30 – 14:30. You can register for the event via [this link](#).

Chronic kidney disease virtual update for GPs

A lunchtime virtual event for GPs organised by GSTT's and King's College Hospital's renal departments.

Friday 13th May 2022 13:30-14:30. More information and book via the [link](#).

Cardiovascular lunchtime webinar

This webinar will provide information and practical tips concerning the requirements and support for the CVD DES in primary care. The webinar will be led by SEL CVD pharmacists Helen Williams and Rachel Howatson.

Monday 16th May - 13.00 to 14.00. Find a full agenda and book via the [link](#).

World Asthma Day 2022: learning about CYP asthma

Tuesday 3rd May - 9.30 to 12.30.

Register at [World Asthma Day 2022: a morning of learning about CYP asthma \(england.nhs.uk\)](#) to receive the joining link. The [agenda](#) is attached.

Working with people and communities in primary care

The NHSE Public Participation Team is hosting three events focused on partnership working with people and communities in primary care:

- **Monday 30th May - 15.00 to 16.00.** [Partnerships with people and communities in primary care: The art of the possible.](#)
- **Wednesday 1st June - 15.00 to 16.00.** [Working with health inclusion groups in primary care: What to consider.](#)
- [Tweet chat on Wednesday 1 June from 12 PM to 12:50 PM](#) - To celebrate PPG Awareness Week, the Tweet chat which will focus on 'improving public engagement in primary care'. To participate log on to Twitter on the day/time and tag [@NHSCitizen](#) and use the #StartWithPeople hashtag.

For more information, and/or to join the online space for sharing good practice and learning, please contact bethany.golding1@nhs.net

The Patient's Association has launched a PPG toolkit aimed at practices. It provides information and templates to support you to set up, run and develop effective PPGs including virtual / on-line PPGs. [Patient Participation Groups | The Patients Association \(patients-association.org.uk\)](#)

COVID-19 Spring Booster webinar

NHS London and Age UK London information session on Covid-19 Spring Booster.

Wednesday 11th May - 13.00 to 14.30.

[Covid-19 Spring Booster - what all Londoners need to know Tickets, Wed 11 May 2022 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Resources

Immunosuppressed / weakened immune systems toolkit

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) has advised that those aged 12+ with a weakened immune system should be offered the spring booster dose, around six months after their most recent Covid vaccination. [The weakened immune toolkit](#) contains key messages and a useful FAQ. Assets such as posters and social media assets can also be downloaded from the [resource centre](#).

Recruitment

GP Vacancy – St James' Practice in Beckenham

Vacancy for a 2-4 session Salaried GP to join high QOF achieving PMS practice in Beckenham. It is a training practice serving approximately 6800 patients. The clinical team comprises of 5 GP partners, 1 salaried GP and 3 part time nurses and they are supported by a team of experienced administrators and receptionists.

For further details and to arrange a visit please contact the Practice Manager, Kieu Tu on 020 8650 0568 or k.tu@nhs.net. Days and salary negotiable for the right candidate.

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