

# Core brief

## **Daily COVID-19 update (26 March 2020, 17:30)**

We are committed to ensuring that staff have the information they need to know to respond to the current COVID-19 situation. We have widened out the Core Brief distribution to include nhs.net emails so apologies if you receive the Core Brief twice but we want to ensure everyone receives them.

Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: [www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19](http://www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19). We are continually updating these webpages with new information and ask colleagues to check this regularly.

If staff have any individual questions, please email [staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

## **Blood Glucose Meters and Point of Care Testing (POCT)**

Guidance has been produced by the NHSGGC POCT Committee for the use of FreeStyle Precision Pro Blood Glucose meters in patients with suspected or positive COVID-19. These are the connected blood glucose meters that are used in Secondary Care across NHSGGC.

Before trained staff begin testing it is important they read and fully understand the instruction and risk assessment, including PPE and decontamination requirements.

You can find the instruction and risk assessment, along with other approved risk assessments for Point of Care Testing in COVID-19 patients on our dedicated page on the [NHSGGC Point of Care Testing on StaffNet](#).

## **Changes to physiotherapy and podiatry services**

All non-essential musculoskeletal physiotherapy and podiatry services have now been suspended. Any patient requiring urgent care will be risk assessed and treated when appropriate.

The NHSGGC Podiatry Service will continue to treat new foot ulcers, return foot ulcers, dressings and infected nail surgeries. They will now take responsibility for all foot and ankle wounds across the Board.

Physiotherapy staff will be deployed to use their skills to support respiratory care, both in acute and community teams, or to support wider patient care.

## **Social media use**

Social media is a great way for people to connect at this time of social distancing. Many people are taking to social media to praise staff and to show their appreciation for health and social care services at this time which is a real morale booster for us all.

If you are using social media to chat to friends, family and others about the current situation, then this is a gentle reminder to follow the personal guidelines for staff on social media which are there to protect you and to protect your patients.

If you are taking photos... remember that these should comply with the current social distancing rules (so no close group selfies!) and can we also caution colleagues against appeals for support from local businesses for supplies. Whilst this is a real example of using your initiative, the amount of goodwill in the community could lead to a much bigger response than you had bargained for. If you have an idea for how we can work with the community can you send these to [SupportYourNHS@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:SupportYourNHS@ggc.scot.nhs.uk).



Some of our GRI colleagues demonstrate how to lead by example with social distancing

### Social distancing

And on the issue of social distancing, can we remind colleagues of the need to observe this in the workplace wherever possible just as you do when making journeys to and from work and when in supermarkets.

If you are using one of the canteens, or a rest area, then space out and give your colleagues room – and please observe the two metres' rule.

**Coronavirus**  
Covid-19

## Please remember to wash your hands

Follow the correct hand washing procedure  
[www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus](http://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus)

It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.  
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)