

## COVID-19

### Lee Savarrio - Chief of Dentistry Update (1-4-2020)

Again I want to start by thanking you all for your continued support as well as the resilience shown by so many facing problems head on and working together to address them.

#### GDS

- As highlighted by a GDS colleague on social media the waiting times for NHS dental advice can be extensive. We raised this with NHS24 and offered assistance. In relation to this, NHS24 are looking for GDPs to be redeployed into NHS24 for the duration of the COVID-19 outbreak. NHS24 is looking for a minimum of 2 x six hour shifts per week but more hours are available. NHS24 work during the out of hours period (6-10pm evenings and Saturdays/Sundays and Public Holidays) so interested dentists must be able to commit to these times.

They are asking dentists to assist in second - on call telephone triage for dental patients contacting NHS24 for dental advice. All training in systems and process will be provided. GDPs will be based in the NHS24 call centre in Cardonald Business Park in a room arranged to take consideration of 2 metre social distancing.

Can anyone who is interested please email [OHD@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:OHD@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) with the subject header **NHS24**, providing us with your name and contact details.

- We are now making direct contact with practices to arrange collection of any supplies/PPE you have offered. Once again my thanks for these, it would be really helpful if when contacted you can arrange to have the supplies at one central point in your practice to speed up the collection process. I mentioned yesterday that our Acute colleagues have asked us specifically for visors. I would therefore specifically ask that practices that have good stocks of visor frames and shields contact us via [GDSadmin@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:GDSadmin@ggc.scot.nhs.uk) with the subject – **PPE**.
- We have been contacting GDPs today to arrange for orientation at PDS sites and will be continuing to do this over the next few days to allow volunteers to begin to help staffing these “cold” non-covid urgent dental care centres.
- On a separate note we are working with pharmacy colleagues looking at how we can facilitate a process where prescriptions can be emailed direct to a pharmacy nearest the patient. We hope to be able to provide more details in the next few days, in line with GDC guidance on remote prescribing.

**Please continue to monitor your practice NHS mail account daily. We are now also issuing all communications to individual NHS.net accounts via our LDC colleagues.**

**PDS**

- We are in the process of finalising the PDS triage flowchart for the management of patients during COVID and this will be circulated by the end of the week.
- We are testing “Attend Anywhere” which as some of you will know is a videoconferencing facility for patients to interact with our teams. This will be invaluable for adding value to our patient contact for triaging especially for dental trauma and facial swellings. We would hope to have this fully operational by the end of this week or early next week.

**HDS**

- Colleagues in secondary care continue to support colleagues in primary care as well as refining the pathways for the Covid and non-Covid risk patient pathways to minimise any risk to the patients or our teams.
- SOP’s for secondary care are being modified slightly in line with the new SDCEP guidance issued yesterday.

***Be kind to one another,***

***Lee Savarrio, Chief of Dentistry***