

COVID-19

Lee Savarrio - Chief of Dentistry Update (9-4-2020)

Well, we have almost come to the end of another very busy week, my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your ongoing levels of commitment and hard work. I appreciate this will not be the end of the week for many of our staff who will continue to provide emergency care for our patients from Friday through to Monday. My thanks in particular to them for working together this week to ensure, at very short notice, that we have triaging and emergency care provision throughout the Public Holiday weekend.

- As the opening of the Louisa Jordan Hospital at the SEC is now imminent, we have been asked to review our staffing and identify any staff who can now be reassigned to support our colleagues in the wider NHSGGC. If you have been identified as one of those staff, your line managers will discuss this with you prior to reassignment taking place. I understand that this may cause some degree of anxiety with staff, but in these unprecedented times we must offer support to the wider NHS family in any way we can.
- Just a reminder NHS 24 will **NOT** be covering Good Friday and Easter Monday public holidays. However, the PDS Special Care Hub **will** be operational on both these days. GDS colleagues are kindly asked to continue to triage their patients as they have been doing and follow the usual referral procedure into the PDS Special Care Hub; care will be delivered as normal by the GGCEDS service. On Saturday 11th April and Sunday 12th April, this will be covered as a normal weekend by NHS 24.
- With regard to the availability of pharmacies during the public holidays, as I mentioned yesterday, Friday is a normal working day and all pharmacies will be open, so the current process for prescriptions should be followed. **For Monday 13 April, we will be circulating separately a list of pharmacies that will be open.**

Moving forward community pharmacies are going to be issued with mobile phones so that professionals (GPs, GDPs, OOHs etc) have a contact number which allows them to through direct to the pharmacy quickly. I will provide you with details as soon as they are available.

- I understand that there may be additional information next week about the extension of testing for staff who are self isolating because they have been displaying symptoms.

*Have a peaceful weekend,
Lee Savarrio, Chief of Dentistry*