

COVID-19

Lee Savarrio - Chief of Dentistry Update (11-11-2020)

In common with colleagues in other healthcare settings the remobilisation of our services in HDS, PDS and GDS continues. We are thankful to GDS colleagues for the noticeable reduction in the referrals to the UDCCs with the numbers now on a weekly basis being in single figures. This will allow our PDS and HDS colleagues to concentrate their efforts on remobilising their own services.

Following recent guidance notes from PSD, we have put together a flow chart (attached) and hope it may help GDS dentists record the correct item 80 codes for SDR 148.

We understand the recording of these codes may help inform modelling that will be carried out to help with PPE calculation and provision as well as the 'tiers' that a practice may be placed into in the future so accurate and timely transmission of codes will allow that to happen as accurately as possible to allow for a fair calculation for all.

I have also attached a letter from the 4 UK Chief Dental Officers offering support to the dental profession throughout the second Covid-19 wave.

Social Distancing

I make no apology for the continuous reminders that we all have a responsibility to be as vigilant outside the workplace as we are within. In the workplace we need to continue that vigilance in hand washing, face covering, social distancing and environmental decontamination in clinical and non-clinical areas. This is to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19, but also to ensure our teams remain adequately staffed to deliver safe and effective dental care to our patients.



Stay Safe and Look After One Another

Respirator Hoods

We have been advised by NSS that they will not be supplying respirator hoods as part of the enhanced PPE. Therefore GDS will have to source these independently if required. I am advised that they can be used for treatment of NHS patients as long as the manufacturer's guidance is adhered to.

PPE

Further deliveries of simple PPE from Scottish Government will commence to practices from Monday 16 November onwards. As before and questions or queries regarding your supply of PPE can be directed by email to oral.health3@ggc.scot.nhs.uk.

Staff COVID-19 testing

All staff are reminded that they can be seen quickly for a COVID-19 test through the testing centre at West Glasgow ACH.

Both symptomatic health and social care staff (including care home staff, GPs, dental team members and community pharmacists) and symptomatic household contacts can now arrange to have a test using the e-referral form (link below). Anyone who is asymptomatic should **not** apply for a test.

Referral will be by appointment which are available seven days a week.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=veDvEDCgykuAnLXmdF5JmgW9YoY5w-BDIHK7ghonYUBURTJBTFE0UEFBN0I2ODU3S0IFNTJJUjYzTiQIQCN0PWcu>

*Kind regards,
Lee Savarrio, Chief of Dentistry*