

Core brief

Monday 23 March 2020

Introduction

This issue of Core Brief details a COVID-19 update.

Daily COVID-19 update (23 March 2020 – 15:21pm)

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. We are continually updating these webpages with new information and ask colleagues to check this regularly.

Updated guidance for over 70s

Yesterday we issued the latest updated guidance for healthcare workers who are pregnant and those with underlying health conditions. We have now updated the guidance for those who are aged 70 and over.

We are advising those who are aged 70 or older, regardless of medical conditions to strictly follow social distancing measures.

If you fall into this category you should speak to your Line Manager. They will arrange for you to work from home if possible, transfer to duties that could be undertaken at home, or asked to remain away from work (practising social distancing and/or self-isolation) until the outbreak has abated.

The FAQs are being regularly updated and [can be found on the dedicated web pages](#).

Updated guidance from the Infectious Diseases team

The Infectious Diseases team have updated the COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions guidance which they wish to share with all clinical staff. This has been published on the Coronavirus Information Hub, [found on the front page of StaffNet](#), and will be updated as the situation changes and new information comes to hand.

Message from Dr de Caestecker on measures being taken to protect and safeguard staff and patients

Please click on the link below to watch the video.



Conferencing facilities for virtual meetings

As colleagues continue to observe social distancing, we have been asked about the arrangements for video and audio conferencing within the organisation. A number of services already have conferencing facilities set up and these should continue to be used to support essential meetings being held virtually. In addition, eHealth have also requested additional BT MeetMe audio conferencing accounts to be set up. Should your team require additional accounts you should seek both senior approval and give an indication of relative priority to assist eHealth in prioritising deployment and then contact the eHealth service desk.

Reassignment of Staff

Over the next few days, HR Managers will be engaging with service managers to identify and prepare 'non clinical staff' from 'non-essential services' to be re-assigned to alternative bases/wards/departments in order to support areas of greatest clinical need across NHSGGC. In order to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic it is necessary to take pragmatic decisions to sustain services. This will also include ensuring 'social distancing' measures are implemented for those essential staff who are currently in work and require to be retained within their existing department, as well as considering working from home and other suitable arrangements.



Please remember to wash your hands

Follow the correct hand washing procedure
www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus



Are your contact details up-to-date? [Click here](#) to check