

Core brief

Daily update
(19 November 2020, 5.15pm)

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DAILY REMINDER: Don't Spread the Virus at Work or Home
Always clean your desk, phone, laptop, and anything else you use regularly every day.

Travelling to Work – Restrictions

From Friday 20 November until Friday 11 December restrictions will come into place across a number of local authority areas. This prevents any non-essential travel across Level 3 or 4 local authority areas, except for an essential purpose – including travelling to work.

Can you ensure that you carry your picture ID with you when travelling in the event that you are asked to confirm where you work. In addition we have produced a letter to also confirm place of work that you can access through your Line Manager in the event that this is required.

Shielding Letters

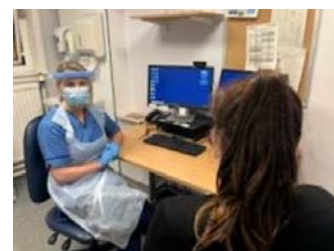
If you fall into the category of individuals who receive a follow up shielding letter, please arrange to provide a copy of this to your Line Manager who will undertake a revised risk assessment with you to consider any adjustments to your working arrangements.

Working from Home

In line with Scottish Government guidance and ongoing NHSGGC arrangements, where possible, if staff members are able to perform their job from home, then arrangements should be made to do this.

COVID Community Assessment Centres open and ready to provide vital care

As the number of patients with COVID-19 in our hospitals is now in excess of 700, we have issued an urgent message to members of the public to remind them that if they have COVID symptoms, they should utilise NHS 24, NHS Inform and our COVID Community Assessment Centres in the first instance instead of Emergency Departments.



The Community Assessment Centres – in Barr Street (Glasgow), Clydebank, Renton and Linwood – operate on an appointment-only basis and ensure COVID-symptomatic people can be cared for effectively, while also ensuring our hospital ED staff can focus on treating emergencies.

It is really important that patients who feel they need to be seen do this by contacting NHS 24 on 111. If further clinical advice is required, NHS 24 will refer patients onto a clinician who will provide a full telephone assessment and if needed, an appointment at the patient's nearest Community Assessment Centre. If patients have severe symptoms they may still be referred directly to hospital.

New clinical trial launched for early treatment of COVID-19

A potential treatment for COVID-19, which has shown early promise in China and Japan, will be trialled in NHSGGC. Glasgow is the first area in Scotland to have access to the drug, which can be taken at home when patients are in the early stages of disease as well as by hospitalised patients.

Over 300 eligible patients with COVID-19 will be invited to join the new research study into the effectiveness of the antiviral drug, favipiravir.

The trial will target early treatment of the virus for those who test positive and must be taken within four days of a COVID-19 swab test. This treatment is intended for people with milder symptoms.

Three hospitals are taking part including Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Glasgow Royal Infirmary and Royal Alexandra Hospital. Patients may receive treatment in hospital or as outpatients.

The ground-breaking research is a collaboration between NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and the University of Glasgow, funded by the Chief Scientist Office of the Scottish Government.

[Click here for more information.](#)

R&D COVID Update: Promising arthritis drug for treating sickest COVID-19 patients

Clinical Research teams involving Clinical Research Facility, ITU (GRI, RAH, QEUH) and Pharmacy have been supporting the international research study, REMAP-CAP, which today has announced critically ill patients with COVID-19 who are treated with an arthritis drug are significantly more likely to have improved outcomes.

The early findings, which are yet to be published, come from the REMAP-CAP trial which is led by Imperial College London and the Intensive Care National Audit & Research Centre (ICNARC) in the UK and Utrecht University in Europe. The trial evaluates the effect of treatments on a combination of survival and length of time patients need support in an intensive care unit (ICU).

The results show that treatment with tocilizumab, an immunosuppressive drug used to treat rheumatoid arthritis, reached a key efficacy endpoint among critically ill patients with severe COVID-19, compared to patients who did not receive any immune modulation treatment.

We are grateful to NHSGGC patients who have taken part in this study. At this time advice is awaited nationally on how these results may translate into routine care.

Speed matters for our health and wellbeing

This year Road Safety Week, 16 – 22 November, is asking everyone to learn that there is 'No need to speed'.



We cared for a whopping 3359 people through our Emergency Departments (including Minor Injury Units), Assessment Units and Specialist Assessment and Treatment Areas, between 1 November 2019 to 31 October 2020 who all stated an RTA, car crash or car accident as the reason for needing treatment.

Speed plays a part in every crash so whether a person is walking to school, cycling to town or driving to work, the speed of traffic matters to their safety.

So let's all get on board with Road Safety Week this year and help everyone understand why speed matters and join together to say there is 'No need to speed' on our roads.

To find out more, visit: www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk and <https://roadsafety.scot/>



Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhs.gov.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the [FAQs](#) first. If you have any further questions, please email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

**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](#)**