

West Essex Primary Care Covid-19 briefing

**Issued: 15/05/2020 – Issue 26**

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Dear colleagues,

In this issue you will find the latest guidance and information for primary care. If you would like any content included please email [Sarah Crane](#) or [Naomi Brooks](#). For updates on Nursing contact [Emma Harnett](#), nurse tutor.

To make sure the briefings do not end up in your junk folder please add these email addresses to your email contact list: [westessexccg.comms@nhs.net](mailto:westessexccg.comms@nhs.net) and [WECCG.primarycare@nhs.net](mailto:WECCG.primarycare@nhs.net) Constructive feedback gratefully received! **#bekind**.

Best wishes to all,

**Christine Moss**  
Chief Medical Officer

**Sarah Crane**  
Associate Chief Medical Officer

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### **Previous briefings**

The new West Essex GP Hub is now live. You can find previous briefings on [www.WessexGP-Hub.org](http://www.WessexGP-Hub.org) and use the password COVID-19.

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### **In this issue:**

- West Essex Daily System wide SITREP 15/05/2020
  - Service and clinical update guidance
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  - Nursing and allied health professionals update
  - Educational resources
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### **West Essex Daily System wide SITREP –15/05/2020**

- [Appendix 1: WECCG PCN Sitrep 15/05/2020](#)

### **Service and clinical update guidance:**

#### **Annual flu immunisation letter from NHSEI to primary care 14/05/2020**

This letter is to inform colleagues which groups are eligible for flu vaccination this autumn and sets out actions that you can take now to prepare for this autumn's vaccination campaign. Further guidance will be issued about how to manage the

immunisation programme to reflect circumstances nearer the planned start of the programme in September 2020.

- [Appendix 2: annual flu letter](#)

### **Access to end of life medicines during Covid pandemic: commissioned palliative care pharmacies**

Appendix 3 shows the weekly update of stocks held in commissioned palliative care pharmacies. These pharmacies have been commissioned to enable the immediate access to specialist drugs in unplanned/ emergency circumstances. Green indicates everything is in stock and amber indicates what is not in stock in that pharmacy as of 15 May 2020. The list of medicines held at HUC bases is also included.

To support timely access to palliative care medicines during the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic PrescQIPP have also developed an interactive Map of all the Palliative Care Pharmacy sites currently available in the East of England.

Please see [link](#) to the Palliative care pharmacies across the region.

\*Please remember to phone your preferred dispensing site before sending the script to ensure the medication you are requesting on prescription is available and can be dispensed urgently to support timely patient care.

- [Appendix 3: palliative care medicines](#)

### **Falls in care homes during Covid -19**

A very helpful guide and poster developed by members of the National Falls Prevention Coordination Group (NFPCG). The purpose is to provide support and clear information on falls for staff in care homes during the pandemic.

The Falls FAQs poster is available on the British Geriatrics Society website in two places:

- [Tools and templates page](#)
- [Care homes guidance page](#) (this is the most-visited page on the BGS website):
- [Appendix 4: falls FAQs poster for care homes - May 2020](#)

### **Chaperones and consent in remote consultations**

A helpful update summary for Primary Care in West Essex, prepared by Dr Ken Menon. Additional information and guidance can be found at the GMC website.

- [Appendix 5: chaperones and consent in remote consultations](#)

### **BTS Guidance on respiratory follow up of patients following Covid-19 pneumonia.**

Dr Ken Menon has kindly prepared a summary document for West Essex Primary Care of the key points from the recent British Thoracic Society Guidance. The original document can be found [here](#).

- [Appendix 6: summary of post-Covid-19 Management of Patient](#)

### **Kawasaki-like illness and Covid -19**

A helpful summary sheet prepared for West Essex Primary Care by Dr Ken Menon.

- [Appendix 7: kawasaki disease and Covid-19](#)

### **ARTP – spirometry accreditation training update**

The ARTP Spirometry Accreditation has been open for GP Practice clinical staff members to sign up to since September 2019. Many of those who have signed up were mid-way through the course when COVID-19 commenced, ARTP assessments were stopped and the course paused. The pause to the course would mean that some evidence submitted before lockdown would, under normal circumstances, be too old to be accepted once the course re-opened. ARTP have confirmed that all evidence submitted prior to the lockdown will be honoured so long as it was 'in date' at the start of lockdown. Practices will be kept informed of any plans to re-start the course and assessments as they become clear. If you have any further queries, please contact [Alice Vye](#), Senior Transformation Manager.

### **Mental health crisis support**

An important reminder about a new 24-hour crisis mental health phone line: Dialling 111 and selecting the option for mental health crisis (option 2) will connect callers to staff at Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust (EPUT) who will provide immediate support and advice.

#### **GPs are reminded that:**

- You should advise patients to call the phone line if/when they are in mental health crisis
- A dedicated crisis line is available for GPs - 01375 364633 – to help you access the service quickly if you have concerns about a patient.  
The service is for people aged 18 and over.

Anyone under the age of 18 or family members of anyone under the age of 18 in crisis, should call North East London NHS Foundation Trust's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service on 0300 555 1201.

999 should still be used for anyone in need of treatment for serious or life threatening physical health issues alongside a mental health crisis.

The service aims to alleviate pressure on A&E services and GP surgeries and ensure those in need can access support when they need it most.

These are useful resources for mental health referrals in West Essex.

- [Appendix 8: Mental Health Referrals details - Harlow](#)
- [Appendix 8a: Epping North - EPUT Mental Health update and contact details](#)
- [Appendix 8b: Uttlesford - EPUT Mental Health update and contact details](#)

## **Non-clinical update:**

### **Summary Care Record: SCR additional information - TPP**

It has been recommended that a centrally run bulk change is applied to patient records and GP Summary updates sent for a group of patients who currently have a core SCR. The purpose of the change will be to enrich patient's SCRs with additional information. This includes significant medical history, significant medical procedures, end of life care information and anticipatory care information. To help the NHS to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, NHSX and NHS Digital have asked Primary Care systems suppliers to upload the SCR-Additional Information (SCR-AI) for all patients, unless the patient has expressed a preference not to include it. This is in order to improve the access that doctors, nurses and authorised health and care professionals have to medical records and information.

For this upload to happen in TPP's SystemOne, Practices must ensure that there is a single SystemOne Gateway client logged in on their network for their Organisation at all times. This Gateway should not be restarted or logged in and out of by different users on a regular basis. The Gateway should be logged into by one profile that has the access rights to retrieve and save patient records and amend the Summary Care Record. The Gateway can be used for multiple other functions such as scanning, Strategic Reporting and sending SMS messages. The Gateway should not be actively used by a user during their daily tasks. If this PC needs to be used by a second staff member, users should open a second non-Gateway client instance of SystemOne.

If users do not know which PC is currently setup as their Gateway, they can check this by going to Audit > User > User Logins within SystemOne. There is a column for 'Gateway'; the PC setup as the Gateway will have a tick in this column.

TPP have uploaded the SCR-AI for many practices, however TPP still urgently require that remaining practices leave their Gateway client logged in, as above, to allow the SCR upload to take place.

If you or they have any queries, please contact [liveservices.operations@nhs.net](mailto:liveservices.operations@nhs.net)

## **Nursing and allied Health professionals update:**

### **To all nurses, HCAs and health professionals in primary and community care in west Essex**

As always thank you for your continued support with the Whatsapp groups, emails and messages. So many of you have responded and you have felt better connected with one another than ever before. Can I ask you for your honest feedback regarding how you have coped professionally during the pandemic? What has gone well and

what hasn't worked so well? Perhaps you can give some examples of innovations or just simply how you might like to implement new changes.

Please email me by 22/5/20. This information will be anonymous and will be collated by our senior nurse colleagues at a national level. This will help shape the future of practice for nurses and HCAs as we start getting back to 'a new normal'. Your voice matters

Thank you, Emma Harnett, Primary Care Nurse Tutor WECCG.

## **Education resources:**

### **NHS COVID-19: primary care bulletin – 14 May 2020 (Issue 38)**

- [General Practice Bulletin](#)

### **NHS COVID-19: primary care bulletin - 15 May 2020 (Issue 39)**

- [General Practice Bulletin](#)

### **Recommended GP learning resources from local GPs:**

eGPlearning.co.uk

- [Technology- Enhanced Primary Care and Learning \(TEPCAL\)](#)

### **NB Medical complementary resources and login.**

Here is a link to [NB Medical complimentary resources and blogs](#) on Covid related items

Please do not forget your annual login for NB Medical full range of resources, issued in November 2019 following the Time to Learn at Manor of Groves for those who attended. Any problems with access, please contact [Bev Hayward](#).

### **Upcoming training/webinars:**

#### **"Leg Ulcer management looking at Caring for Legs in a crisis" 22nd May or 28th May 1pm. Virtual Training**

A training opportunity for all nurses and HCAs. This 1 hour sessions will cover aetiology, best practice, wound self-care & self-care compression. There will be a half hour session for discussion and any questions. If you would like to attend the virtual session please contact [Jack Sanderson](#). Jack will then email you a link to the meeting, which will be held via WebEx (very similar to zoom).

### **Royal Society of Medicine free resources and training**

The Royal Society of Medicine are currently providing healthcare workers on the frontlines with updates from healthcare leaders on their free COVID-19 Series of webinars which Govconnect would recommend taking time to view. Please take a look [here](#).

**UCL Partners ‘supporting general practice post COVID-19 recovery webinar - PCN community practice’**

Further to the ‘Supporting General Practice During COVID-19 Webinar’ held in April, UCL Partners would like to invite you to the ‘Supporting General Practice post COVID-19 recovery Webinar - PCN Community Practice’ on **Wednesday 27 May** from **6.00pm-7.00pm** to discuss how we can support primary care around the management of long term conditions (asthma, COPD & diabetes) post COVID-19 recovery period, and next steps for hypertension and heart failure. Please register [HERE](#) and share the link with your PCN clinical leads and pharmacists.

For more information on the UCLPartners LTC programme please select the link below:

- [General information and webinar](#)
- [Supporting general practice during COVID-19 webinar’ held in April](#)