

COVID

DAILY BULLETIN

| 28 April 2020 |

Welcome to today's COVID-19 bulletin. We hope you are all looking after yourselves. As always, we are appreciative of the hard work and dedication you are all showing in managing this crisis and continuing to deliver health care to the people of Sheffield, thank you.

TODAY'S CONTENT

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FOR ACTION

Increased Patient Information for health and care professionals - attachment

To help the NHS respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, NHSX and NHS Digital are improving the access that doctors, nurses and authorised health and care professionals have to medical records and information. This will help them to more safely treat and advise patients who are not attending their usual GP practice, who have called NHS 111, or who are receiving care in another setting.

The attached letter explains the temporary changes being made to GP Connect and to the Summary Care Record to enable this, **and the actions you need to take.**

To summarise, NHS Digital will switch all practices to GP connect – NHS Digital will ask system suppliers to switch on the functionality. Practices will still need to implement some changes to allow the COVID Clinical Assessment Service (CCAS) to book appointments directly into practice systems. The letter provides a link to guidance on how to make these changes.

QNI survey for practice nurses

The Queens Nursing Institute (QNI) have developed a short survey to understand more about the impact of Covid19 on the role of practice nurses. The results will be used to inform the policy response to support nurses in continuing in their roles and the consideration of redeployment in a variety of contexts. The survey should take between 10 and 15 minutes to complete.

All responses are anonymous. The data will be analysed and the summary report produced in May 2020 will be shared with NHS England/Improvement. Please take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/K6TGLSN>

FOR INFORMATION

Think About AKI and Potential Causes in Older, Frailer Patients

STH colleagues (Jamie Kapur and Tom Downes, Consultant Geriatricians), have sent this message based on their experiences from the front line of geriatric admissions in STH. A helpful reminder that although assessing oxygen levels in

Covid19 patients is critical, it is not the only thing to think about when assessing ill patients. Thanks to Jamie and Tom for sending us their reflections;

“Recently we have been seeing frequent acute kidney injury (AKI) in geriatric admissions. This is observational from the front line so we can’t provide data. We predict the cause is multifactorial with the key issues being;

- Covid-19 reducing oral intake (as can any infective respiratory illness)
- Variable levels of support from family and carers due to social distancing

These cause pre-renal failure which is responsive to intravenous fluids.

Of note, NHS England have recently sent out specific AKI advice for Covid-19 patients outside of intensive care so we infer this issue has been observed nationally; <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/wp-content/uploads/sites/52/2020/04/C0299-acute-kidney-injury-in-hospitalised-patients-with-covid-19-outside-icu.pdf>

There is clear focus in the Covid-19 guidance on respiratory symptoms. We recommend careful assessment of fluid intake for consideration of admission of frail older patients.”

STH Drive through blood testing now available for all GP patients

The drive through blood test service set up by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals at Sheffield Arena is being extended to all patients in the city who require a routine blood test.

GP colleagues are welcome to use the service for your patients. Please place the request via ICE as usual to ensure the phlebotomy team has visibility of the test required and ensure the patient has the paper request form to bring to the Arena testing site. We cannot carry out the test without a request form from the patient. They do not need to book an appointment. Simply turn up at any time between 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

For those patients who do not wish to use the drive through option, the usual hospital phlebotomy services are still available with appropriate social distancing rules applying. For more information please contact: Richard Wardle, Lead Laboratory Manager on 07884 118618.

COVID-19: Patient Assessment the role of physiology and oximetry

Webinar: Wednesday 29th of April, 1.30-2.30pm

The assessment of patients who are unwell with COVID-19 or other causes presents a significant challenge for GPs and clinicians working in Primary Care. The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) and the AHSN Network are holding a joint webinar looking at the role of oximetry and other physiology in that assessment.

The webinar will be led by:

- Dr Jonathan Leach, RCGP Honorary Secretary and COVID Lead
- Dr Alison Tavaré, Primary Care Clinical Lead at West of England AHSN
- Dr Simon Stockley, RCGP Lead for Acute Deterioration and Sepsis

Overview of content to be explored:

- Clinical features of COVID-19
- Importance of oximetry in COVID
- Clinical judgement and physiology in Patient assessment
- Role of NEWS2 in General Practice and Care Homes
- Remote oximetry in the assessment and management of COVID disease in the community
- This will be followed by a Q and A session.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/covid-19-patient-assessment-the-role-of-physiology-and-oximetry-tickets-103148423712>. The webinar will be recorded and shared afterwards.

Transfer of Paediatric Surgery to Sheffield Children's Hospital - attachment

Please find attached information for GPs regarding transfer of Paediatric Surgery to Sheffield Children's Hospital from South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Integrated Care System.

NHSE/I webinars

NHS England and Improvement have a series of upcoming webinars that may be of interest to practices:

- 28 April, 12.30-1pm: [giving your patients access to online services remotely](#)
- 30 April, 4.30-5pm: [Video Consultations: using accuRx throughout COVID-19 for EMIS and SystemOne practices](#)
- 30 April, 5-6pm: [primary care webinar with Nikki and Ed with a focus on an extended Question and Answer session](#)
- 7 May, 11am: [homeless health webinar](#)

King's Fund weekly e-newsletter

The King's Fund weekly e-newsletter has some interesting articles this week including a guest blog from a hospital doctor on the frontline of the pandemic. You can see the e-newsletter here: <https://kingsfundmail.org.uk/21A8-6UK1A-9BLRTJN671/cr.aspx>

USEFUL LINKS

[NHS Covid19](#) | [CCG Intranet](#) | [Past bulletins](#) |
[Email us](#)