

## Coronavirus - LMC Update 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### FAQs – 24 April 2020

Our updated FAQs based on queries to the LMC from practices. If you have a query it's worth checking the FAQs first.

### **Testing – Humber Bridge North Regional Swabbing Facility**

This facility for staff and key worker testing is now operational and full details can be found in the documents below. These versions were issued 24 April; please note they are subject to updating at short notice.

Tests are by appointment only and it's important that people don't attend without an appointment. Testing is available for health and social care staff and/or members of their household (over 18, initially) who are currently self-isolating.

Collated booking forms need to be submitted by 12:00 each day (7 days) for processing by 15:00. A text message will then be sent to each worker to allow them to book an appointment online.

The site will primarily be a self-test site but there will be an assistance lane if people require this. The process does carry a risk of false negatives and people need to follow the correct technique – see the instruction video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKpS2qk8Ufk>.

Details can be found in the following downloads:

- [COVID-19 staff and key worker testing information for partner organisations](#) – overview information
- [Booking Process for COVID-19 Testing for Key Workers – Humber](#): how to use the online portal
- [COVID-19 National Testing Programme – Key Worker Testing](#) – flyer to distribute to staff
- [Guidance for testing 12-18 year olds](#)
- [FAQs](#)

Documents for use by those who will be arranging tests for staff:

- [Flowchart](#)
- [Excel booking form](#)

The regional team overseeing the process can be contacted with general testing queries on [england.hcvcovid19testing@nhs.net](mailto:england.hcvcovid19testing@nhs.net).

**Please note that the separate Northern Lincolnshire service is still operating** – see the [statement from Northern Lincolnshire CCGs](#) on how to access tests.

**May 8<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday Opening**

The latest from NHS England is that the early May bank holiday on Friday 8th May will be a normal working day for general practice from 08:00 to 18:30, with local capacity discussions to guide this. There could be cross cover within PCNs so not all practices would need to be open provided patients can access an adequate GP service. No information has been provided yet on pharmacy opening requirements. We will provide further updates on this when available.

### **PPE Suppliers**

Thanks to all those who completed our short survey last week on alternative suppliers of PPE and other supplies. The first results have been collated and the resulting document detailing suppliers can be found [here](#).

If you know of any other suppliers please complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FZ6FH6G> and we'll continue to update the results.

### **Referrals to secondary care**

The [NHSEI Primary Care bulletin of 16 April](#) advised that GPs should continue to refer patients to secondary care using the usual pathways and to base judgments around urgency of need on usual clinical thresholds. GPs should also continue to use specialist advice and guidance where available to inform management of patients whose care remains within primary care including those who are awaiting review in secondary care when appropriate. Further NHS guidance will be published shortly advising secondary care to accept and hold clinical responsibility for GP referrals.

### **BMA guidance: COVID-19: toolkit for GPs and GP practices**

Newly published online by the BMA, this guidance is intended for GPs, partners and practice managers to manage employment and contractual issues and service provision during the Coronavirus pandemic.

[View the guidance](#).

### **Just in Case Medications**

We've been contacted by the pharmacy at HUTH NHS Hospitals Trust who have asked us to issue a reminder of the guidance for prescribing just in case drugs.

This is following a number of cases recently where relatives have attended the hospital looking for JIC medicines that could not be found in community after searching different community pharmacies.

[Guidance for Commencing Palliative Care Medicines \(Just in Case Drugs\)](#) – Hull and East Riding Prescribing Committee.

### **HGV Medicals – Temporary Arrangements**

The government have made some temporary changes to the rules controlling HGV licences:

- temporary removal of the routine D4 medical will make it easier for bus and lorry drivers to renew their driving licence

- as long as they are fit to drive, applicants will be able to apply for a 1-year licence without the need to provide further medical evidence

Further details can be found [here](#).

### **Locum GPs – Model Terms for Temporary Employment**

The BMA has published model terms of engagement for a GP providing temporary COVID-19 services. They can be used for the temporary engagement of a GP by a GP practice or other primary care provider for COVID-19 services and are recommended by the BMA as good practice.

The model terms can be found at <https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/covid-19/your-contract/covid-19-model-terms-for-gps>

### **Individual Coaching Support for Primary Care Staff**

Launched nationally this week by NHSE/I, staff are now able to access individual coaching support by video link or telephone with highly trained, experienced coaches.

This support is available to all clinical and non-clinical primary care workforce either employed by the NHS or contracted to deliver work on behalf of the NHS.

This service has been developed in collaboration with the Royal College of General Practitioners and will complement the wider range of health and wellbeing resources launched at [www.people.nhs.uk](http://www.people.nhs.uk). Primary care staff can register [here](#) and book individual coaching in a way and at a time of day that suits them.

### **Resilience Support**

There is lots of other support available for GPs and other practice staff at this difficult time. Do check our [resilience pages](#) for details of services and resources.

There are still a small number of places available for **practice managers at our forthcoming webinar workshop series of free sessions**. The online sessions run on 28 April, 7 May and 14 May and can be joined in isolation or together. Full details and online booking [here](#).

We are regularly updating our website at <https://www.humbersidelmc.org.uk/coronavirus> with new guidance and resources. Use the search box at the top if you're struggling to find what you need.