West Pennine Local Medical Committee

June 2020 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC







Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Mohammed Wasim, Vice Chair

GP Life insurance during Covid-19 pandemic

The BMA have issued advice on updating your life insurance to support you working through a health pandemic. Please see the following link for further information on this.

https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/covid-19/your-health/covid-19-your-life-insurance

Covid-19 Antibody testing

Antibody testing has now been made available to GPs and practice staff in the Oldham area via the Northern Care Alliance. Antibody testing in the T&G area is due to start today and will be led by the PCNs.

The results for antibody testing will be reported as follows:

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) IgG antibody NOT detected.

No serological evidence of SARS-CoV-2 infection. However, this does NOT exclude recently acquired infection. Please send a combined nose and throat swab for SARS-CoV-2 PCR if infection in the past week is suspected.

SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) IgG antibody DETECTED.

Consistent with exposure to SARS-CoV-2 at some time. Currently this result should not be taken as evidence of immunity to SARS-CoV-2.

Easter opening

Easter now seems like a long time ago! I am aware that many of you have already claimed for additional opening hours over the Easter weekend. In case you haven't done so yet, I have attached the relevant claim forms for T&G CCG and Oldham CCG.





Cameron Fund

The Cameron Fund is one of several charities who support doctors who may find themselves needing support. I have attached their most recent newsletter.



Webinar for Practice Nurses

Please find the attached flyer for an update for Practice Nurses on the NMC standards for nursing & midwifery 2018. The webinars are taking place on Tuesday 16th June 9am-11am and on Tuesday 23rd June 9am-11am. Places can be booked by emailing Deborah.holden7@nhs.net or Jenni.etchells1@nhs.net

Please do share this information with your Practice Nurse.



Cont'd

DPO Update



Jane Hill, GP Practice Data Protection Officer

GM Care Record

The GM Care Record is now established. All but one of the GP practices in Oldham have signed off the data sharing agreement and in Tameside & Glossop 29 of the 37 practices have signed it off. If you haven't already signed off the agreement on the Information Sharing Gateway, please do so and if you have any concerns about it, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I was asked to review the DPIA for secondary uses for Covid-19 purpose research by Manchester university. As this project is using anonymous data, it was fairly straightforward.

You can read more about the GM Care Record in the attached weekly stakeholder brief:



NHS Digital - Data Provision Notice

As you will be aware, practices have now been mandated by the NHS Digital Data Provision Notice to extract fortnightly data via GPES (the GP Extraction Service). The data is to be sent to a SPOC (Single Point of Contact) at NHS Digital. The DPN has been supported by the RCGP and the GPC as it should make life easier for GP practices - any requests for Covid-19 purpose data, for example from CCGs, now needs to go through this SPOC at NHS Digital.

Please see the attached Data Provision Notice for further details.

Track & Trace App

You may have noticed the media have gone quiet about the app! I was on a national DPO call with NHSX last week and it was confirmed that there are ongoing IG issues with the app, which are currently being worked through by the Information Commissioner's Office.

GM Contact Tracing scheme

You will though have heard about the national Covid-19 Trace & Track scheme (not an app!) which is being led by Public Health England. If "complex cases" test positive with Covid-19 their contacts will be traced. There is to be a GM hub which will be staffed by NHS England Staff.

<u>Business as Usual – Data breaches</u>

As is the norm, I have dealt with a few breaches this month. As human error will always occur, data breaches will always happen. If you have a data breach at your practice, please do not hesitate to contact me and I can guide you through the process.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at westpenninelmc@btconnect.com, or mobile 07951 530 417.