

CLMC Bulletin 417 – 03.03.20

GMS Ready Reckoner

NHS England has updated their [GMS ready reckoner](#). This should help individual practices see what happens to their baseline and is an update to the one from last year.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The containment of COVID-19 remains of major concern and GPC are monitoring the situation and will continue to disseminate information as it becomes available. As outlined in an email to all practice managers last week, CLMC are working very closely with the CCG on this; we keep each other informed so we ensure that we are working to support practices and have agreed the following process for information flow to try to mitigate the duplication and confusion of messages

1) Above all it is important that practices continue to check with the national guidance ([BMA webpages](#) and Gov.uk pages [here](#) and [here](#).) on a regular basis (think twice daily as a minimum) as new details are posted regularly and this is where you will always find the most up to date information. It is also important that you review all CAS alerts as some updated national information is circulated here. Please also ensure that your business continuity plans are fit for purpose and reflect the new system e.g. PCNs. Dust them off and give them a refresh if necessary; better to do this now rather than when they are actually needed! Happy to help if we can.

2) The CCG will take the lead in circulating all national and regional guidance/documents as they become available as by sending everything through one source we can ensure that there is a consistent and clear message throughout the NHS system in Tees. The CCG are regularly liaising with CLMC and we have sight of all information as it is coming out so we are all confident we can best support practices in this way whilst minimising conflicted or duplicated messages. Emails will be sent to practices via the primary care generic email address so please do look out for these.

3) CLMC will continue to support practices with the operational/practical solutions and any issues encountered in trying to following the national guidance as we always do with any work. We will pick up the practical, on the ground details and questions. As we know, we often find difficulties or gaps within national guidance as it is difficult to cover every eventuality with a rapidly changing picture across a variety of practice systems. Please do contact us with any questions or queries you may have and we will do our utmost to support you with this and also feed any concerns/gaps up through the BMA/GPC system who attend all the national meetings where the guidance is developed. We will also continue to link into the LMCs across the rest of the country and share any learning/experiences and practical solutions that have been developed on the ground. The CCG will also continue to field operational questions so do use both avenues. Please also report any incidents that sit outside the guidance (e.g. inappropriate referrals) via the SIRMS system so that the CCG can identify and address potential issues.

If you have any questions please do get in touch. We are here to help.

Joint Letter Calling for Pension Tax Changes

The BMA continues to lobby for pension tax reform ahead of an anticipated announcement in the forthcoming Budget 2020, and has written a joint letter together with several other health bodies to the new Chancellor, Rishi Sunak MP, calling for a solution to the pension taxation crisis.

The letter states that “It is essential that such a reform of pension taxation policies is implemented as soon as possible. This change is supported by the signatories of this letter and the tens of thousands of doctors our organisations represent.”

You can read more in the press release [here](#) and in the [tweet](#).

Friends and Family Test – April 2020

In advance of the revisions to the [Friends and Family Test guidance](#) effective from April 2020 which apply across the NHS, NHSE/I have published additional guidance on the [submission of data in General Practice](#) along with the submission dates for 2020/21. [FAQs](#) are also available setting out the changes made to the standard questions and advice for implementation.

Medicine Supply Updates

In addition to the [February medicine supply update](#) from the Department of Health and Social Care, a [diamorphine injection supply disruption alert \(SDA\)](#) has been issued via CAS.

GPC GP Bulletin

See the last GPC bulletin [here](#)