**Hepatitis C service advice during COVID-19**

We appreciate the current pressures contractors are facing in order to provide safe and effective service for patients and staff. For hepatitis C medicines - we are content if instalment  quantities are required to be changed to ease pressures in the pharmacy and **we do not require the pharmacist to seek our authorisation prior to doing so**.

If OST dispensing frequency changes, then the hep c med should be changed to match that. For patients not on OST , instalment  quantities can be amended to suit circumstances. Eg the instalment can be changed from weekly to a single month pick-up.  We would be grateful if you can let us know of any changes made ideally within 48-72 hours.

Hep C medicines missed doses:

Please continue on with treatment , even if missed doses occur, adding on these doses to end of treatment. There is no need to contact service for agreement- but again we would be grateful if you can let us know retrospectively.  However if there are more than 2 weeks of consecutive missed doses- please do contact the service for advice on continuation of treatment.

Please either email [hepcpharmacy@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:hepcpharmacy@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk) or phone 0131 537 3755 or for RIE patients 0131 242 1639 and WGH patients 0131 537 2820.

Contact details can also be found in individual patient treatment form.