

Key Messages – Day 3

19/03/2020

Dear Colleagues,

No, I'm not going to do a count up each day, I think that would blow all of our minds!! As has been the case for the past few days, things are a moving feast for all of us and inevitably the school closures will be affecting many of us. I know that my local authority is looking for ways to support children of essential healthcare workers to allow us to remain in work if healthy, so it may be useful to check out your local advice and arrangements.

Anyway, pharmacy matters for today!

National communications - Pharmacy professionals will have received another email from GPhC with an update on relaxation of some of the regulations. Please read this and the Board can pick this up in a future comms with you once we have had a chance to pull some thoughts together on what this may look like/mean/ support for you.

Community Pharmacy Scotland CEO, Harry McQuillan, has prepared an updated video blog for community pharmacy contractors so this is definitely worth a watch!

EHC consultations – I have been asked several times if these can be carried out over the telephone. I'm happy to support this if you choose to provide the service this way. However, you will need to consider how you actually supply the medication to the patient if the consultation is carried out remotely.

NSAIDs and Covid 19 – there has been some media interest in the use of NSAIDs in Covid 19. A letter from the CMO in NHS England was circulated to all CPs yesterday. There is no evidence to support the claim that taking NSAIDs increases risk of contracting Covid 19. If patients are already prescribed them for other reasons, they should continue to use them. Paracetamol (yes, I know, collective groan) remains the drug of choice for reducing fever.

Communications – we are utilising one of our generic email addresses for all queries Covid 19 related. Please email any questions, queries, stories (good and bad as we do need to celebrate the successes more than ever!) to NewPharmacy.Applications@ggc.scot.nhs.uk and one of the team will respond.

Take care everyone, you are all doing a fabulous job under very difficult circumstances.

Regards

Elaine

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