**Key Messages 08/04/2020**

Dear Colleagues,

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

National Procurement is arranging an initial drop of masks to community pharmacies. This is expected to go out on Thursday via Alliance and a process for replenishment is being developed by NHS Services Scotland. There will be further communication from Scottish Government about use. NSS will be putting in place a process for accessing replenishment. I’ve been asked to model demand so have asked NES if the workforce data would be useful for doing this.

**WHOLESALERS – EASTER WEEKEND ARRANGEMENTS**

Please be aware that at present, the mainline wholesalers for community pharmacies are currently closed on Easter Monday so no deliveries or picking. Usual OOH arrangements are in place for emergencies. However, you are encouraged to double check opening/closing times with your own wholesalers for the weekend arrangements.

**PALLIATIVE CARE MEDICINES**

An email was sent last night on behalf of Elayne Harris, Macmillan Lead Pharmacist (Palliative Care) with regards to changes in polices and processes to support patients receiving palliative care, arrangements in care homes and prescribing arrangements using HBP pads.

**SANDYFORD SERVICES**

Sandyford Services are beginning to provide consultation to patients requiring contraception remotely and supplying HBP pads. Just in case you notice a change in prescription forms for contraceptives!

**PSD/ ePHARMACY HELP DESK**

As most of the ePharmacy staff are currently working from home, please do not telephone if you have any queries but use the following link instead. There is information within the link for an email contact for each department. Please remember to include your contractor code and a contact telephone number for anyone to call you back if required.

<https://nhsnss.org/services/practitioner/pharmacy/contact-us/>

Regards

Elaine

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