

## **Covid-19 Briefing for Community Pharmacy Teams**

14<sup>th</sup> April 2020

### **Humanitarian Hubs**

In partnership with the HSCPs and voluntary organisations across Forth Valley, we are putting in place a process for medicine deliveries/collections for vulnerable and at risk patients. Once this is finalised we will send out a communication to your shared mailbox

### **COVID Testing**

Please ensure all details are included in the email to the Health Protection Team if any member of the team requires a test. We are still receiving emails with details missing which leads to a delay in testing. All information that needs to be included can be found here:

<https://pharmacies.nhsforthvalley.com>

### **PPE**

Face masks should be disposed of as clinical waste and further information will follow soon on the process for this. In the mean time used masks should be placed into a plastic bag and the bag stored in isolation.

### **MDS**

During this period of increased workload pressure your support in carefully considering new requests for MDS from hospital is much appreciated. While discussions continue with social care colleagues to move to original pack dispensing plus MAR some care providers require medicines to be dispensed in MDS. Work is ongoing to find a collaborative solution but in the interim requests aim to support patients to be safely discharged freeing up crucial capacity in the hospital.

### **Security**

Police Scotland have confirmed that they will be conducting visits to community pharmacies in Forth Valley to advise on security measures during the current situation. Further information on behalf of Police Scotland has been attached to this email.

### **ECS**

#### **Reminder – ECS Access for Community Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians**

If you have not already applied for an ECS account for use within Forth Valley pharmacies and would like to, please follow the instructions outlined on the home page of the Community Pharmacy website. At this stage, if an ECS username and password is issued to you, these credentials are currently only for use within Forth Valley community pharmacies. If you have already applied for an account, please remember to check your personal NHSmail account for further information.

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### **Useful Information**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society has produced guidance on the ethical, professional decision making in the COVID-19 pandemic. This guidance can be found here:

[RPS Guidance on Ethical, Professional Decision Making](#)

### **Eye problem management**

Up to date information on the management of eye problems can be found here:

<https://nhsforthvalley.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/COVID-19-Eye-Problems.pdf>