

Wednesday 8th April 2020 1700 hours

Important information for all General Practices, Community Pharmacies, Community Nursing and Aged Care Facilities – Please share this with everyone in your team

Further to the funding information in the CPRG update yesterday

- Any COVID or potential COVID consultation should not incur a co-pay, nor be retrospective.
- If a GP refers to a CBAC (Level 2 assessment), the CBAC triage team makes the Public Health ERMS notification, and will notify patients of any negative results (not the GP, as per yesterday's update).
- For Level 1-3 assessments only an Acute Demand Claim is required, no ERMS Acute Demand referral. For Level 4 Clinical Details are required so an ERMS Acute Demand referral is needed.
- An updated claim info sheet will be put on [Community HealthPathways > COVID-19 Requests](#) shortly.

Guidance on healthcare worker exposure at work and in the community

- A useful flowchart with advice, and an exposed staff member self-monitoring diary is now on [Community HealthPathways > COVID-19 Information](#).

Self isolation advice

- Updated advice about how long people need to self isolate for with symptoms but negative or no testing. See Community HealthPathways > COVID-19 Requests and [HealthInfo > Self-Isolation after COVID-19 Testing](#).
- As a healthcare worker it is critical that you do not work if you are unwell, even if very mildly. Unfortunately we are very effective vectors for transmission.

ERMS public health notification

- Do not attach or cut and paste large amounts of notes that are not relevant to public health. Along with privacy issues, they receive these by fax so it blocks up fax machines.

Consultant approval prior to transfer of patients to hospital from Aged Residential Care

- Patients in Aged Residential Care facilities are now required to be discussed with a Consultant prior to transfer to hospital, as advised by the MoH.

Burwood Hospital cancels all elective surgery

- Information is on [Community HealthPathways > COVID-19 Impact on local services](#).

General Practice is open for business

- It is recommended that you send out this text (or similar) to patients. 'If you develop symptoms of COVID-19 call us, or Health Line on 0800 358 5453. COVID-19 consultations are free to the patient. We are still providing normal patient care so phone us for regular prescriptions, check-ups and health issues. Usual fees will apply for normal patient care.'

Flu vaccine

- The Ministry had previously stated that vaccinations should only be provided for high priority groups until 13 April and be opened up to the general population after that. In order to ensure that everyone in the priority populations have had adequate opportunity to receive their vaccination, this date will be extended to **27 April**.

Kind regards,

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