

Core brief

Daily update
(26 April 2021, 5.45pm)

Topics in this Core Brief:

- Visiting Arrangements – Visiting Toolkit and Information Resources
- Last week to sign up to the BHF UMOD study
- Public Transport update

Visiting Arrangements – Visiting Toolkit and Information Resources

From today (Monday 26 April), every patient in Scotland (where possible) is able to have at least one visitor to enable family support while they are in hospital. This named visitor should not change frequently, unless for example the visitor is away or unwell.

Universal lateral flow testing is also now available for anyone in Scotland.

When family members arrange to visit, voluntary testing should be **strongly recommended** as a valuable way to promote safety. Information (from 26 April) on how to order or collect Lateral Flow Tests is on the [Scottish Government's website](#). Alternatively a test can be booked/arranged at the [asymptomatic test facilities](#) across NHSGGC.

It is important to note that Lateral Flow Testing for visitors is **not** mandatory and wards are not able to insist that visitors undergo a test before visiting. Not wishing or not being able to test will not be an obstacle to a visit.

This forms part of a suite of measures to mitigate the risk of COVID 19 transmission. As such, it is very important that visitors to hospital sites are reminded of other measures in place including hand hygiene, face coverings, and physical distancing (FACTS).

Every hospital should have a visiting risk assessment in place tailored to specific local environmental or clinical needs. A consultant led, multidisciplinary individual risk assessment is also advised for high-risk patients or high-risk cohorts of patients and should be completed separately.

Patients and their family should be offered a clear explanation if visiting is not possible and advised the decision will be kept under review as individual and local circumstances change.

Further resources and support are available as follows:

- A **toolkit** to support areas implement this change will be available from 27 April [here](#)
- A **visiting information leaflet** is available [here](#) – please give to patients and their family or friend chosen to visit.

We are also preparing information in response to frequently asked questions.

Thank you for your support; we will continue to keep you informed and updated as arrangements progress.

Last week to sign up to the BHF UMOD study

Do you have high blood pressure? Would you like to take part in research? Are you on medication and your blood pressure is still high?

Medication is often selected on a trial-and-error basis but researchers in Glasgow, Dundee and Edinburgh would like to look at your genotype (inherited information) and see how you respond to an antihypertensive medication.

Interested?

The BHF research team based at the Clinical Research Facility at QEUH are recruiting for this study. Call the research team on 0141 232 4310 or email Stefanie.Lip@ggc.scot.nhs.uk / Glasgow.CRF@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Visit <https://www.bhfumod.co.uk/> for more information.

Public Transport update

From 2 May, as more restrictions are eased, First Glasgow will be increasing service levels on a number of their routes. This is in line with increased services already being operated by Stagecoach West, McGill's and other bus operators. Social distancing is still in operation, but capacity information for services is available from [Traveline Scotland](https://www.traveline.scot.nhs.uk/) along with up-to-date information on all public transport provision.



Please keep up-to-date with the latest guidance on our dedicated web pages at: www.nhsggc.org.uk/covid19. If you have any questions about the current situation please check the [FAQs](#) first. If you have any further questions, please email: staff.covid19@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Staff are reminded to make sure their [personal contact details are up to date on eESS](#).

**It is important to share Core Brief with colleagues who do not have access to a computer.
A full archive of printable PDFs are available on [StaffNet](#)**