

C/o Cottage Lane Surgery 47 Cottage Lane Gamesley Glossop SK13 6EQ Tel: 07951 530 417 Email: westpenninelmc@btconnect.com

16th March 2020

Dear Patient/ Carer

<u>Re:</u> COVID19 and support for clinicians in the frontline, triaging calls and determining best place for treatment

Due to the current COVID19 crisis and unprecedented demands on General Practice, GPs are having to change the way they work such that patients are being managed over the telephone, via some form of eConsultations and video consultations. Non-urgent work is being halted or postponed until it is deemed safer to do so.

The clinician has to make a decision based on their knowledge, experience and skills to determine whether it is safe to manage the patient without physically seeing them or in the very rare circumstances if they decide to see the patient in person.

It is imperative that the clinician is allowed to make the decision in the best interests of the patient, their family and also the staff looking after them under extremely difficult circumstances.

In the meantime, please look at the advice on NHS Choices (<u>www.nhs.uk</u>), see information on your practice website, make sure you are following the advice you have been offered, use the online services the surgery offers and limit the amount of contact you have with other people to only when essential.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

Dr Amir Hannan On behalf of the Association of Greater Manchester LMCs

Dr Sharif Uddin Bolton LMC Dr Umar Tahir Manchester LMC Dr Mohammed Jiva Rochdale & Bury LMC Dr Aarya Prabhakaran Salford& Trafford LMC

Dr Dan Goldspink Stockport LMC Dr Amir Hannan West Pennine LMC Dr David Humphreys Wigan LMC