**MOE SJH Response to Covid-19**

We are seeing an increasing number of cases of Covid-19. Most mild cases will be managed at home. Patients with deteriorating symptoms and who are for escalation to hospital should be admitted for assessment and appropriate management. Frail individuals (Clinical Frailty Scale ≥5) are unlikely to benefit from escalation to critical care.¹

For patients where escalation is not wanted or appropriate, we wish to support good multidisciplinary care in their own home or care home if possible. Anticipatory care discussions are vital in helping patients, families and carers plan how this care can be delivered.

**REACT Hospital at Home (Mon-Fri 0900-1700 Tel: 01506 524149)**

Admission avoidance referrals will be accepted as per usual pathway, including suspected Covid-19 cases for whom hospital admission is not appropriate or desired. In particular, we can support with short term nebulisers and oxygen therapy up to 2L/min for patients with respiratory symptoms. We will work with primary care, community nursing and the palliative care team to facilitate good end of life care.

**REACT Rehab at Home (Mon-Fri 0900-1700 Tel: 01506 524149)**

Routine ongoing rehabilitation input has been suspended to focus efforts on Rapid Response first assessments. This will provide prompt AHP input and equipment provision to enable a patient to remain in their own home.

**Outpatient services**

REACT Rapid access clinic and all MOE outpatient clinics are suspended for the next 2 months, to focus on acute inpatient care and admission avoidance. SCI gateway referrals will be triaged, but please be aware there will be a significant wait for an appointment.

**Care homes**

It is imperative that all care home residents have a robust anticipatory care plan in place and care home staff are supported in implementing these. Please prescribe anticipatory care medicines for patients who may require them. The West Lothian Care Home Team will continue to support care homes with direct telephone access for care homes Mon-Fri 0930-1100 (Tel: 07790825797).

Hospital admission for any care home resident needs to be discussed with either REACT (Mon-Fri 0900-1700) or if out of hours SJH Med Reg on call (via SJH Switchboard) prior to transfer, unless acute surgical intervention is required, for example, fractured hip.

**Social Care**

Frail individuals may be at risk if their main carer becomes unwell or if their care provision breaks down. Please contact the Adult Social Care Enquiry team (Mon-Thurs 0830-1700, Fri 0830-1600 Tel: 01506 280000) or if out of hours contact Social Care Emergency team (Tel: 01506 281028)

**Support and advice**

Please phone REACT 01506 524149 for support and advice for managing any complex cases.

**References**

1. NICE Guidance on ICU admission for people with COVID [https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159](https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng159)

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