



28th April 2020

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[www.qmul.ac.uk/blizard/ceg](http://www.qmul.ac.uk/blizard/ceg)

## CEG COVID-19 Response & Support in East London

Dear Colleagues, please find latest updates on the support available from CEG during the COVID-19 crisis. We will be sending regular newsletters during this time.

### Ramadan and Muslim Shielding Patients

NEL have advised practices to contact Muslim patients in regard to COVID-19 over Ramadan. There is no national requirement to do this but it has been a local suggestion by Commissioners and Local Authorities in East London.

CEG note that practices have been and can continue to inform patients using usual means such as usual practice comms about medical conditions in relation to Ramadan. There are also wider messages from mosques and Islamic organisations informing patients of the way to look after their health during Ramadan.

If any practice wishes to undertake additional patient contact, CEG have provided a search for patients identifying people who have put their religion as Muslim. We would advise practices that this is often likely to be very incomplete as many people do not record religion.

### Patient Identifiable Data Access

CEG now have access to report patient identifiable data (PID) in Tower Hamlets, City & Hackney and Newham practices, this has been enabled by Emis and does not require the practice to take any additional actions

During the COVID-19 epidemic there is now national approval for identifiable access to patient data under Regulation 3 (Health Service Control of Patient Information Regulations 2002). to enable other organisations such as the Local Authority, medicines management or other appropriate organisations to support additional requirements for people in isolation or other covid-19 health needs, planning and COVID related research.

Please be reassured we will never provide identifiable data to any organisation except where it is fully justified and in the patient's own interest. We will of course handle such data in a secure manner and will shortly publish on our website our procedures for providing this reporting to ensure it is completely transparent.

## CEG Searches update

CEG have updated our EMIS searches to help practices identify patients **at high risk of complications** from COVID-19 who may not have been picked up in primary or secondary care and may require shielding. We have identified areas where reviews of a **small number** of patients per practice may yield **significant returns** in terms of additions to the **shielded patient list**. Further information on the new searches as well as links to the relevant clinical guidance will be sent to you directly from your locality facilitator or primary care support officer. Please read the guidance carefully in conjunction with the searches **particularly** regarding **medication doses**.

**COPY FROM THE PRACTICE SUPPORT FOLDER AS USUAL – As the shielding lists are going to be synced on Tuesday, you might want to look at this as soon as possible.**

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

We have lots of useful resources to support you during this time, and we review them daily.

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/blizard/ceg/covid/>

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