**Cambs LMC COVID-19 Update 3 – 16/3/2020**

**From:**Dr Katie Bramall-Stainer <katie@cambslmc.org>

**Subject: [LMCNews] Sample letter for nursing/care homes**

**Date:**16 March 2020 at 15:58:09 GMT

**To:**news@cambslmc.org

Sample letter for practices to send to their residential, care and nursing home facilities:

<<GENERAL PRACTICE HEADED PAPER>>

Date

Care Home

Address

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

**Coronavirus (Covid 19)**

We appreciate this is a challenging time for everyone in the health and social care sector and we hope all your staff and residents remain well.

We are currently experiencing very high demands and we expect this to rise. We want to support your staff and residents, but we are also keen to keep the risk as low as possible.

We are trying to keep face to face contact to a bare minimum. Your residents are very vulnerable and clinical staff can unwittingly pass the infection onto them. This means many routine check-ups will be cancelled or postponed.

We ask you to think carefully before requesting a clinician attends a resident. If it is for routine or non-urgent issue, consider if it is safer for it to be deferred. If you have a resident whose condition is of concern, can you please provide as much information as possible. This could include the ear temperature using an electronic thermometer, blood pressure using an electronic sphygmomanometer (which will also provide a pulse rate) and blood oxygen using a fingertip pulse oximeter. This equipment is available in many chemists and from on-line retailers.

If you suspect a resident has Coronavirus, please logon to the NHS 111 website for the latest advice. Use  <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> .

We will be cancelling our routine visits for the time being, but one of our clinicians will ring you on a regular basis to conduct a telephone advice ward round. We will be in contact with you shortly to make these arrangements.

Please ensure you have a senior member of staff available with all information about your residents to make this as effective and efficient as possible.

We are also working to provide other means of consultation and in the future the option of video consulting may be available.

Please note if it is necessary to visit a clinician will still attend. Please be warned that under some circumstances, clinicians may attend wearing protective equipment which may be worrying for some residents.

By working together, we will come through this in the best shape possible.

Thank you for your continuing support,

Yours Sincerely

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ENDS