

Dear Members

I hope this finds you all well. I usually have a face to face meeting with you all in May but this is not possible with social distancing so I thought I would give you a short update on the diabetes services.

Covid 19 has changed the way we work in hospital significantly both on and off the wards. We are now moving into the recovery phase of the pandemic and there are plans to get routine work back as soon as possible. However, the way we work has changed considerably and there have been changes in the diabetes clinics that I am sure you have noticed.

During this time, the diabetes team has strived to continue supporting patients and we have moved all our outpatient clinics to telephone clinics whenever possible. So far feedback from patients has been very positive especially as these are less disruptive to patients' lives. These clinics will continue and we will build on this. There are also plans to move to video consultation and this is currently being developed. However, there are subsets of patients for whom patient facing clinics are required and these will continue for them.

Finally, I am sure you are all aware that diabetes is a risk factor for developing severe Covid 19 symptoms so it goes without saying that you need to continue looking after yourself and keep your diabetes under control by keeping to a healthy diet and keeping active. Further information is also available at Diabetes UK. I have also uploaded some articles from Diabetes UK and I hope you find these useful.

Until we meet again, stay safe and stay alert.

Best wishes

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