

## Colposcopy Services and COVID-19

30<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Guidance was produced by the British Society for Colposcopy and Cervical pathology (BSCCP) on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and was sent to all colposcopists on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

This guidance relates to the screening programme in England, but has raised some questions amongst colposcopists in Wales.

**This is a statement to clarify the current position in Wales.**

We continue to request that all individuals directly referred to colposcopy services by Cervical Screening Wales are seen and managed appropriately, and that follow-up and treatment appointments also continue.

We also expect colposcopy services to continue to accept symptomatic referrals from primary care.

Colposcopy clinics will start see to fewer referrals, however at present there are still samples requiring processing and reporting. It will be two to three weeks before all samples have been reported.

Colposcopy clinics are expected to continue to see existing referrals through their relevant pathways, and to accept symptomatic referrals.

Women discharged from colposcopy clinic should be advised that invitations for their 'test of cure' sample may be delayed.

**Colposcopy services may also wish to consider the following: -**

- **Colposcopists should ideally wear scrubs where possible, and use appropriate PPE (gloves and aprons for asymptomatic patients)**
- **Waiting rooms should ensure social distancing is possible and keep numbers to a minimum**
- **Colposcopy rooms should have minimum numbers of people present to try to ensure social distancing as much as possible – this may mean that patients do not have a partner/family member present**

- **A fully functioning, serviced smoke extractor is essential where LLETZ/diathermy is being performed**
- **Training clinics should only be taking place if the trainee is indirectly supervised. The trainer should only be present in the room if/when necessary**
- **Patients who are unwell, or self-isolating because a household member is unwell, should reschedule appointments**
- **Colposcopy 'test of cure' (e.g. post CGIN treatment, post hysterectomy) can be delayed for 3 months**

If there are any queries regarding the advice for colposcopy clinics, please contact: -

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