

Dear Sir/ Madam

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice for renal patients**

As a close community of patients and dedicated staff whose aim is always to do our best possible to support you and your families, we are all working together to meet the challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have already shared the changing national advice about what we all need to do to reduce the risks of COVID-19 infection during conversations on the dialysis unit, in the clinic, over the telephone and through our Twitter accounts. The purpose of this letter is to provide the latest advice and tell you how to keep updated on any changes.

This advice has of course been made widely available through the national media and social media too, especially <https://renal.org/covid-19/> which also links directly to the Kidney Care UK website <https://www.kidneycareuk.org/news-and-campaigns/coronavirus-advice/>.

We strongly recommend that you and your families continue to access this advice directly from the links above, as the content is updated on a daily basis. If you find it difficult to do this, Tahira Mir, our Cultural and Health Improvement Officer and other members of our team can help as appropriate, and you all have the relevant contact numbers for our specialist nurse teams.

We are aware that too much information can result in anxiety, especially if it is lacking in consistency, and we have been mindful of this in selecting some key messages in the attached information.

We will continue to do our best to offer individual counseling and support with the involvement of our clinical psychology team, but some very helpful additional resources have been advertised on the Kidney Care UK website <https://www.kidneycareuk.org/news-and-campaigns/coronavirus-advice/>.

Please keep this letter as a reference document, but it is important to state once again that the information enclosed is consistent with the national recommendations that were issued on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020. It is therefore advisable to continue accessing the national links that are referred to above.

If you have any questions or queries please contact us using the usual telephone numbers for your service.

Very best wishes to you from all of the team

Yours sincerely

***Electronically checked***

**DR J STOVES MD FRCP**

**Consultant Nephrologist & Clinical Lead, Renal Medicine**

**Hon Senior Lecturer of Leeds and Bradford Universities**



Contact Details		Opening Times
Haemodialysis Ward F7:	01274 365692	7am – 9.30pm Mon - Sat
Haemodialysis Ward F8:	01274 365689	7am – 9.30pm Mon - Sat
Skipton Haemodialysis:	01756 796218	7am – 6.15pm Mon - Sat
Home Therapies Team:	01274 383237	8am – 5pm Mon - Fri
Transplant Team:	01274 365557	8am – 4pm Mon – Fri
Advanced Kidney Care Team (Pre-Dialysis/Iron):	01274 365838	8am – 4pm Mon – Fri
In-Patient Ward 15:	01274 383237	Out of hours queries