

## CONFIDENTIAL NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

### Meeting with HIS 19/05/2020 at 3pm SKYPE

#### Prepared from my contemporaneous notes

Dear members this is an update on the Scottish HIS meeting which I summarised from my contemporaneous notes taken at the meeting. I have not covered everything that was discussed and will send the other information out as a separate update. The following is pretty formal and that was the way I presented our views at the meeting so that as the BCAM representative at the meeting I was crystal clear about the advice we had sent out to our BCAM members.

HIS advised that the meeting was to discuss how we can work together to come out of the lockdown and move forward together. BCAM were happy to co-operate with all of the stated objectives. I drew chair's attention the documents that I had circulated to HIS and advised when given the opportunity to speak I would be speaking to these documents and specifically to the legal advice which BCAM had received from Mr Kellar QC. The additional documents I had forwarded to HIS were a summary of the outcome of our meeting with the Scottish BCAM members on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020, the COVID19 guideline advice and the impact statement prepared by BCAM for our members. I had also sent some contact information for PPE.

There was general discussion around the information that clinics would need advice on and the measures they would need to take to protect patients and staff when the clinics opened.

On behalf of BCAM members, and referencing the documents I'd forwarded to HIS, I advised that unless there was legal advice to the contrary some of our members, not necessarily all, may be opening their clinics on 1<sup>st</sup> June. I emphasised that most, if not all, of our members had taken the initiative to close their clinics, to ensure the safety of patients and staff, almost 3 weeks in advance of the advisory letter sent out to clinics by HIS. I confirmed that we had sent out comprehensive COVID19 guidelines on what our members needed to do to keep their patients and staff safe if and when they decide to open their clinics. Our members would be expected to adhere to these guidelines and that they must ensure that all their relevant insurances were in place. I emphasised that BCAM were not saying that clinics should open but having sought the advice from Mr Kellar QC on behalf of their members they would not be advising them to remain closed unless there was credible legal advice to the contrary. I emphasised that our members are all responsible professionals, answerable to their governing bodies. Our members had shown by their early response to COVID 19, in closing their clinics, that they had the interests of patients clearly in their vision and in keeping with the highest ethical standards. I also advised that we had accessed sources of PPE which would not impact on any supplies to NHS. The response from HIS was they had received the information and they were still looking at it and taking advice on the legal opinion. The meeting was closed with the comments that we had all agreed a way forward for the opening of the clinics and that we would await further advice from the Government. I said BCAM was happy to co-operate at all levels as we always have. I also advised that our legal advice to our members still stands as per government advice. On behalf of BCAM I agreed that HIS could use the COVID19 guidelines and the impact statement that had been sent out to BCAM members but that the legal opinion obtained was for our members use only.

The Scottish Government will be making a statement on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020 concerning COVID 19.

There were a couple of other mainly housekeeping issues discussed at the meeting and I'm happy to inform our members of these at the ZOOM meeting on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020. Keep an eye on your in boxes for the details! I will also send you a summary of the last meeting.

Dr Kathleen Long

MBChB MPH DRCOG

Regional Affairs Director for BCAM