

Primary Care Resilience WebEx Series

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# Connect, rebuild and move forward



# Introduction and Scene Setting



**Jill Gillies**

Portfolio Lead, Primary Care Improvement Portfolio,  
Healthcare Improvement Scotland

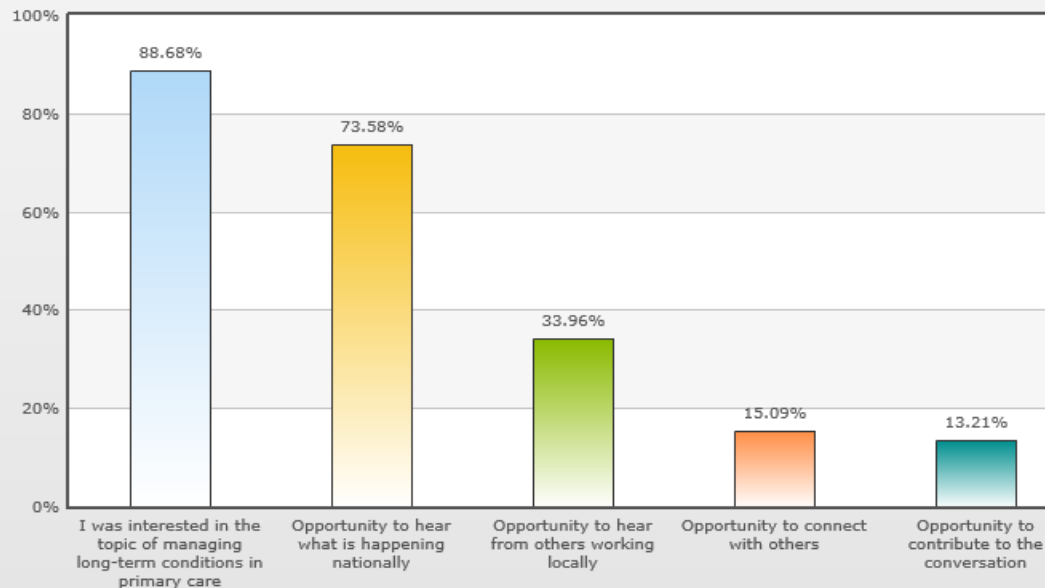
# Aims of the WebEx Series

1. Reflect on what we have learnt from the response to COVID-19
2. Explore what changes we have made and what we need as we move forward
3. Connect and learn from each other

**TODAY –  
Interface Working in Primary Care**

# Feedback from previous Primary Care Resilience Series WebEx

What made you attend today's WebEx? (Please select all that apply)



## General feedback

- "Enjoyed the session today with the short presentations. Good pace and very interesting. Helpful session."
- "Great webinar - short and snappy presentations, gave enough information to trigger discussion and interest."
- "I find these sessions very useful and great to hear about the work going on but also that others are finding navigation difficult."
- "Much work taking place across Scotland, it would be good of course to get some data on patients and types of consultations and outcomes."
- "Chronic disease management is moving away from the rigidity of the contract, becoming more tailored to the individual."
- "Sorry - but I feel that there is a disconnect between the Primary Care coalface and HIS aspirations."
- "Wonderful though Link Workers... and group consultations are, I heard no discussion of the risks of medicalising things that are not medical."

# WebEx Resources on Improving Together interactive

## Dedicated WebEx Page:

- Slides and Recordings
- Summaries
- Q & A Documents
- Upcoming dates
- Links to additional resources



Primary Care  
Improving Together  
Interactive

Home / Improvement programmes / Primary Care / Improving Together Interactive (ITI) / Learning from others / Primary Care Resilience WebEx Series

### Primary Care Resilience WebEx series:

#### Connect, rebuild and move forward together

The response to COVID-19 has led to a rapid change in how general practice operates. To support the sharing of learning, we have developed a Primary Care Resilience WebEx series in collaboration with colleagues from Scottish Government and the Royal College of General Practitioners.

In these WebEx sessions you will be able to connect with peers, take part in discussions on current topics and reflect on what this could mean for the future of primary care.

Topics will change each session and will be based on your feedback. This is to ensure that we are focusing on the most current and relevant topics in primary care and your practice.

[Find out about upcoming WebEx dates.](#)

Visit: [bit.ly/PCSeries](https://bit.ly/PCSeries)

# Interface Working

## Enablers:

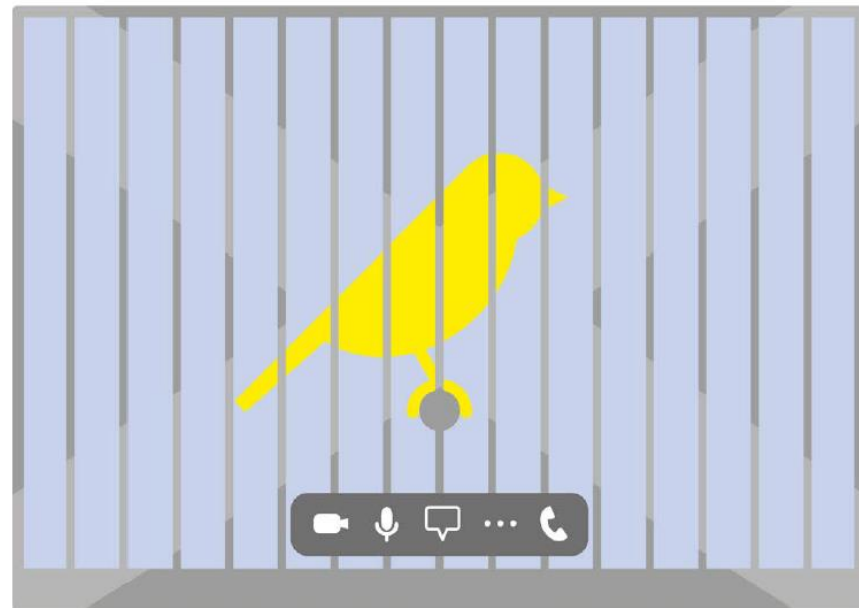
- Communication method across interfaces
- Common purpose and parity
- Data sharing and collection
- Direct primary-care-to-clinician contact
- Third sector community support
- Digital enablers to streamline process
- Changing the narrative –
  - people's stories are key

*"COVID rules applied to everything, so there was one singular focus"*

## Is primary care the 'canary in a coal mine'\* of our health and social care system?

Primary care, taking the next steps in a COVID world: virtual workshops

August 2020

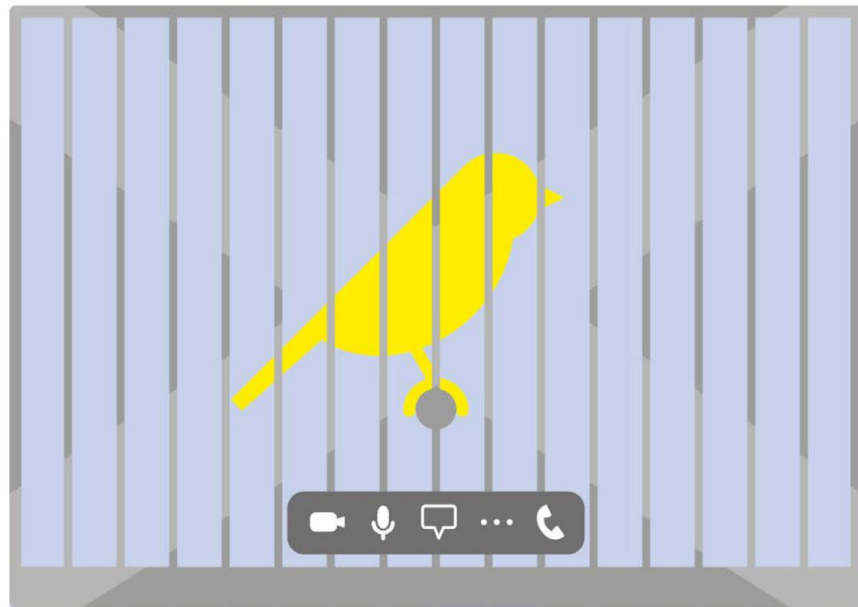


# Interface Working

## Barriers:

- Different definitions of whole system working
- Pre-COVID19 behaviours & silo working
- Continued national focus on acute service and hospital as default
- Target and number driven messaging

*“An interface should  
merge, not collide!”*



Available at: <https://hscscotland.scot/>

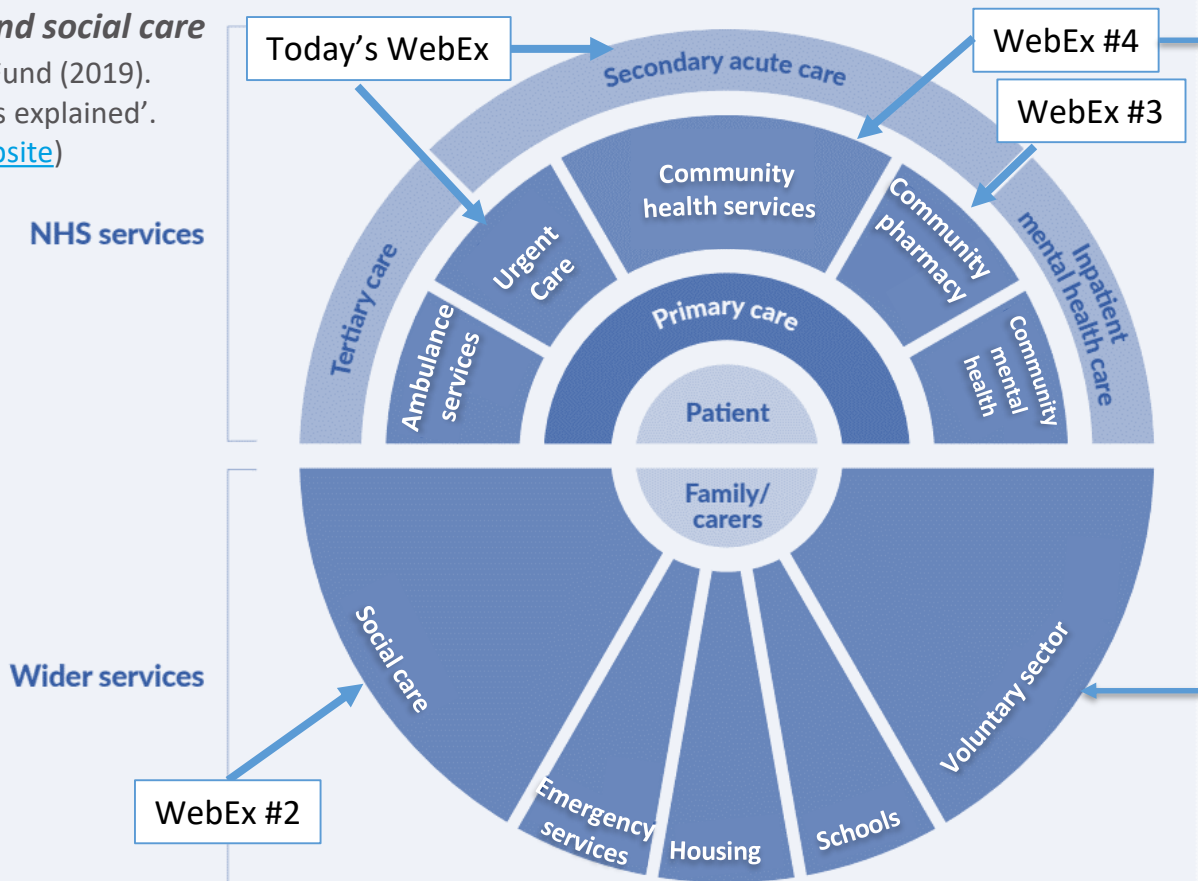
# Primary Care Resilience WebEx Series - Interfaces

## *Interfaces within health and social care*

(adapted from The King's Fund (2019).

'Community health services explained'.

[The King's Fund website](#))





# “Silver Livings” – the potential of interface working for ensuring quality care



**Dr Carey Lunan**  
Chair, RCGP Scotland

# Silver Linings

The potential for Interface working  
to improve Quality of care



Dr Carey Lunan

Chair, RCGP Scotland

@careylunan

# Interface: a definition

“The point at which two systems come together, be it primary and secondary care, in-hours and out of hours care, health and social care, or within primary care itself across the multiple interfaces of extended multidisciplinary teams”

# My interest in interface...

- Clinical lead for ACP
- GP appraiser (SEA discussions)
- Interface Executive Officer for RCGP
- Co-founder of Lothian Interface Group



# Interface challenges

- Independently complex systems
- Don't always relate or communicate
- Different systems
- Different priorities
- Different cultures
- ...

# Why does it matter?

it is estimated that around 50%  
of medical errors occur at the  
interface...

...and that 30% of these occur at  
the **primary-secondary care**  
interface

# And in addition to safety....

Consistency

Efficiency

Relationships

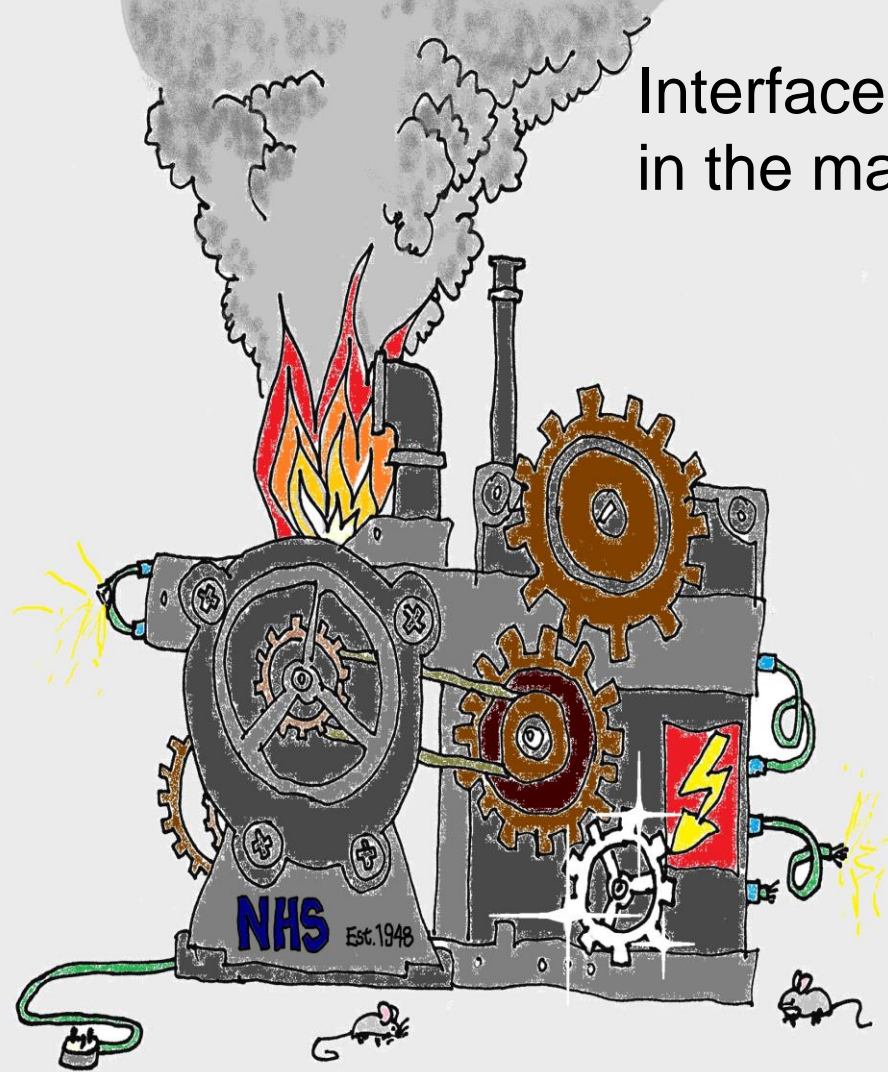
Patient experience



Royal College of  
General Practitioners



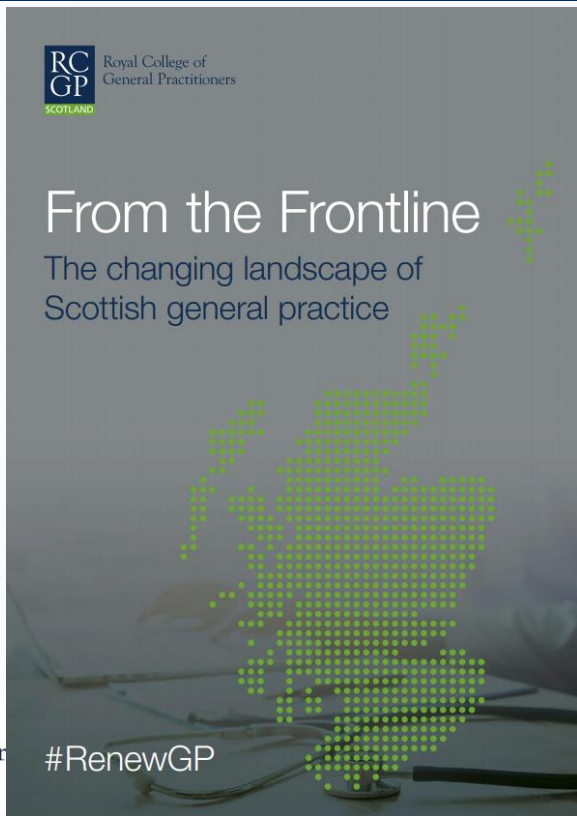
Interfaces = the oil  
in the machine.



# Interfaces: What do we know?

- Professional conversations
- Patient narratives
- Work shadowing
- Complaints
- DATIX
- Patient safety work streams
- Referral analysis
- SEAs
- Board Surveys
- Interface Groups
- Cross-College group

# RCGP Interface work (2014- 2020)



Dedicated roles

Cross-College working group

Learning shared: SG, HIS, NES

Work shadowing

Effective interface module

Workshop delivery

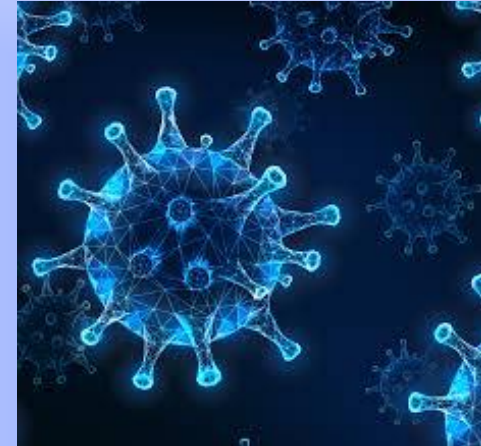
SG-funded IG project

Beyond 1-2 interface

RCGP interface resources

# Interface and Covid19

- Interfaces pre-Covid?
- Approaches during Covid?
- Learning and silver linings?
- Looking to the future...



# Interfaces pre Covid

Relationships between 1- 2 care:

- Variable
- Stressed
- Disconnected
- Siloed.

Despite recommendations from 2016 SLWG and inclusion in the 2018 GMS contract

# Approaches during Covid

- Collaborative approach
- Priority to meet, discuss
- Facilitated by technology
- Whole-system approach
- Clinically-led solution finding
- Local and national work

# Learning and Silver Linings

- Inter-professional respect and support
- Rediscovery of collective voice
- Better interfaces = safer healthcare
- Guideline development
  - caring for patients and family after death
  - equal access for families to visit dying relatives



# Reconnect One Team

Connecting, Communicating, Collaborating



## The Lothian Interface Group (LIG)

*Established to help improve the interface between primary and secondary care in NHS Lothian, the Lothian Interface Group aims to improve patient care, increase efficiency and reduce clinician frustration.*

*We welcome suggestions for our consideration. Contact the group by email:*

[interfacegroup@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:interfacegroup@nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk)



# Interface Groups

- Local interface groups
  - Shielding work
  - Recovery of referral pathways
- National interface groups
  - <https://www.scottishacademy.org.uk/nhs-scotland-after-covid-surge-now-and-next-year>



*“A new culture of cooperation has led to better communication across the interfaces of care between hospital and the community and between other clinical teams. There has been an increased readiness to use cross specialty collaborative working and systems of interprofessional decision support such as Clinical Dialogue”*

# Looking to the Future

*It is strongly recommended that all Boards establish interface groups with primary/secondary care involvement to support whole system recovery...”*

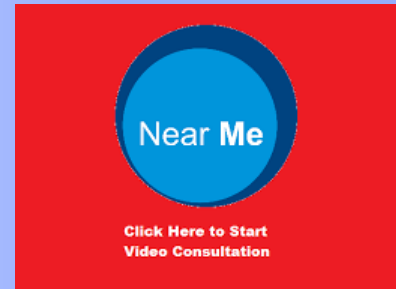
John Connaghan, Interim CE.  
Letter to Boards, 14 May 2020

# Key recommendations

- Formal dedicated interface groups, based on Joint Interface Principles
- Maximise digital opportunities
  - Investment in IT infrastructure & support
  - Clinical decision support pathways
  - Three way consulting options
  - Improved information sharing
- Shared learning events
- Pan-NHS approach to recovery

# Digital opportunities?

- Investment in IT infrastructure & support
- Clinical decision support pathways
- Three way consulting options
- Improved information sharing



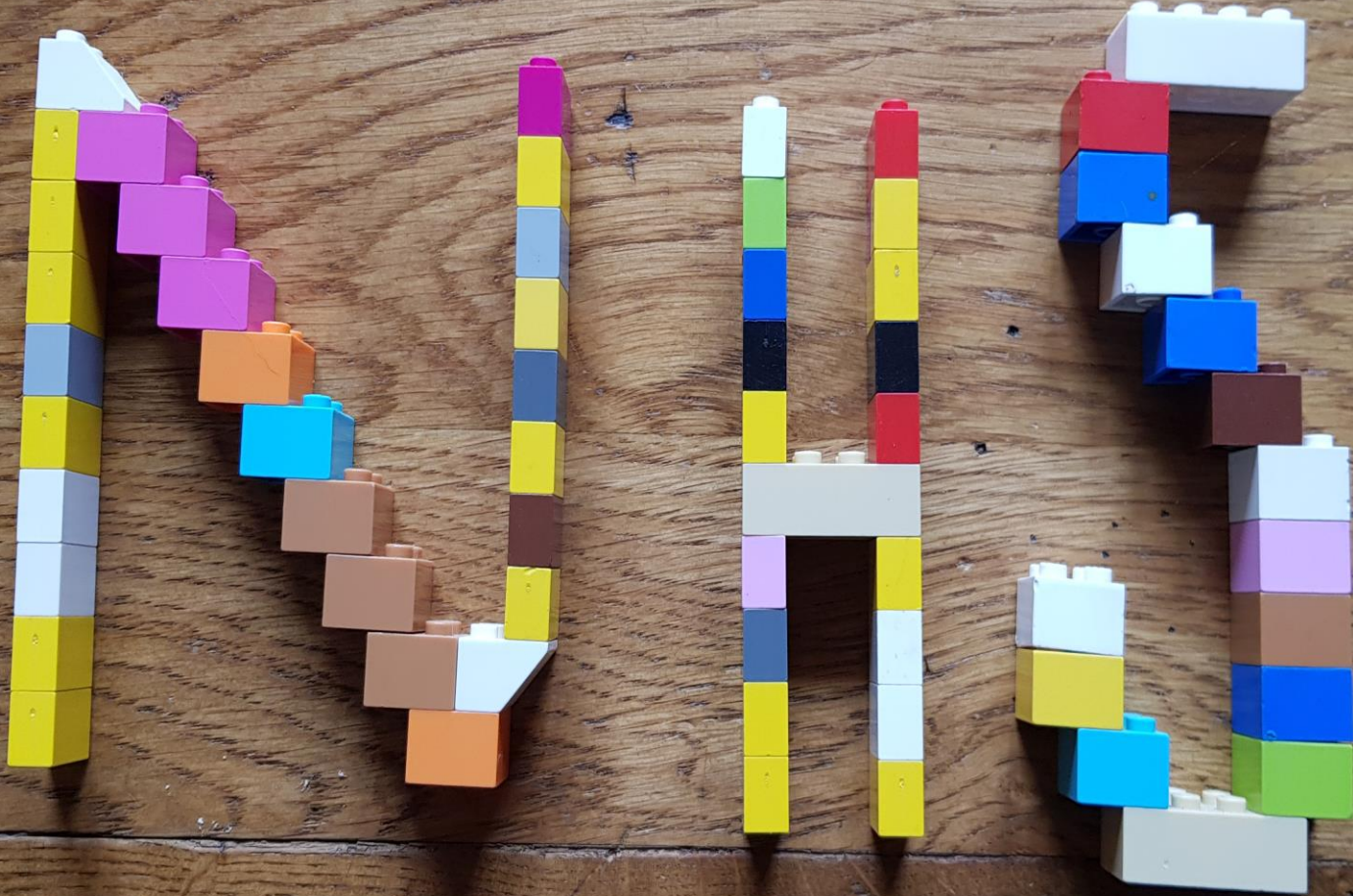
# Interface Resources

- RCGP interface webpage [webpage](#)
  - Useful reading material
  - Effective interface module
  - Interface group toolkit
  - Contact: [scotland.interface@rcgp.org.uk](mailto:scotland.interface@rcgp.org.uk)
- SOAR [template](#) for work shadowing QIA
- PBSGL module 79 on 1-2 care interface

A healthy, high-functioning interface is  
all about building good **relationships**  
(and having decent IT!)  
Sorted.

**Everything is cool when you're part of a team.**

**the**



**movie**



# Example of interface working between primary and secondary care - **Reviewing the orthopaedic patient pathway**



**Lech Rymaszewski**

Clinical Advisor, Modernising Patient Pathways  
Programme, Scottish Government

# INTERFACE WORKING BETWEEN PRIMARY / SECONDARY CARE

## - THE ORTHOPAEDIC OUTPATIENT PATHWAY



**Lech Rymaszewski**

**Clinical Advisor Scottish Government - OP redesign 2014-20**

**Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Glasgow Royal Infirmary 1988 - 2017**

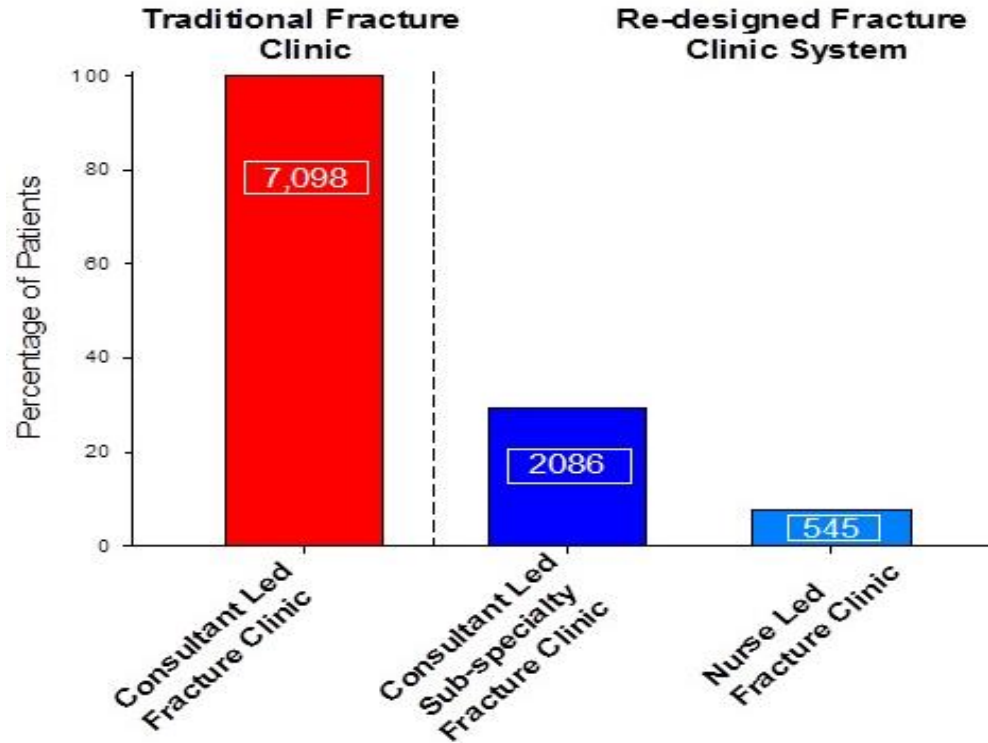
# HOW CAN WE

- Relieve anxiety & uncertainty?



# GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY FRACTURE CLINIC REDESIGN

- a major decrease of new *face-to-face* OP attendances



1<sup>st</sup> year - Oct 2011 – Oct 2012

# ENHANCED VETTING

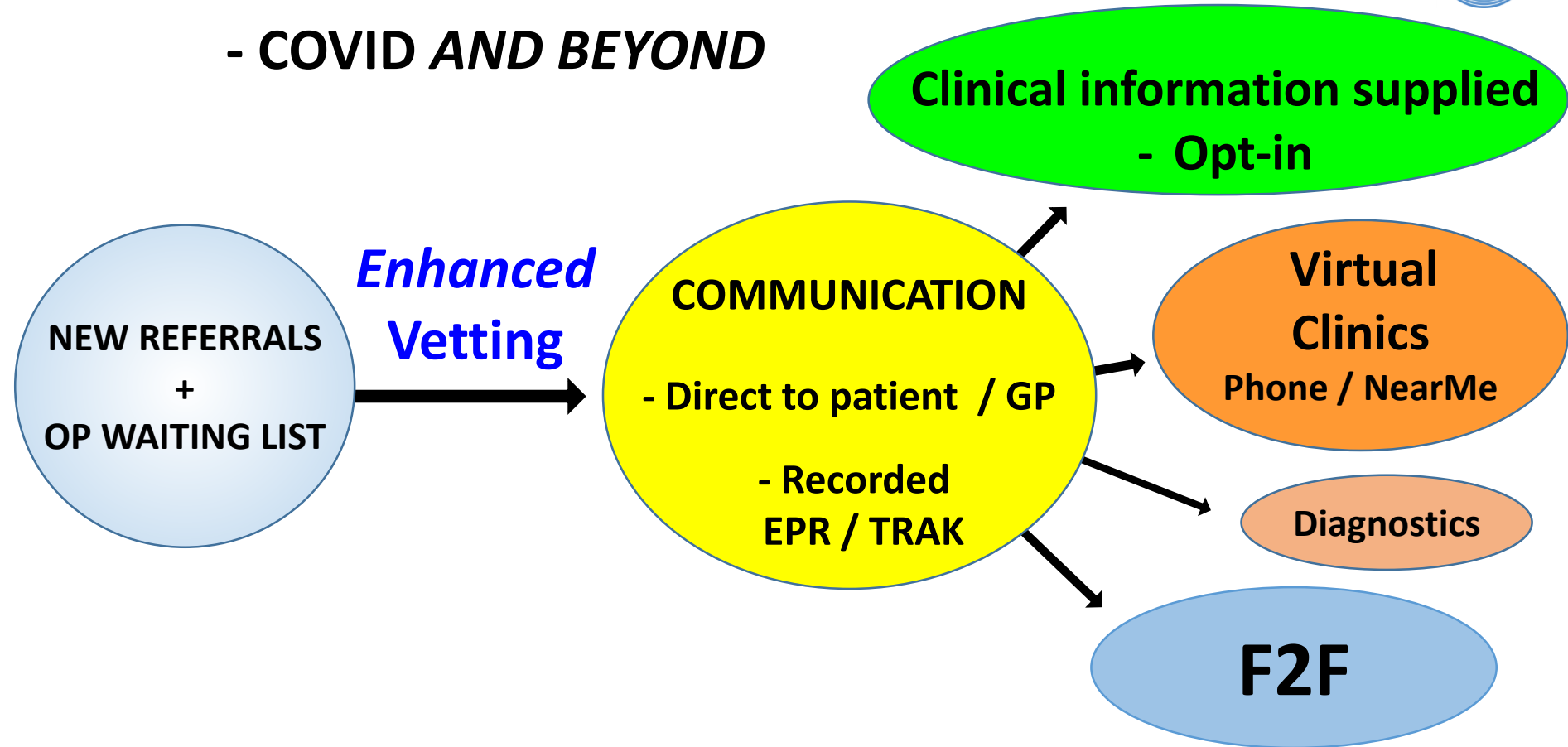
*ACRT (ACTIVE CLINICAL REFERRAL TRIAGE)*

## A SENIOR CLINICAL DECISION MAKER

- Reviews the electronic patient records
  - including imaging, lab results
- Triages using evidence-based, locally agreed pathways

# SUSTAINABLE OP SERVICE

## - COVID AND BEYOND



# **PROMPT PROVISION OF *WRITTEN* PATIENT INFORMATION**

- *key to effective pathways*

## **STANDARDISED INFORMATION**

- *Booklet / email / web-site*

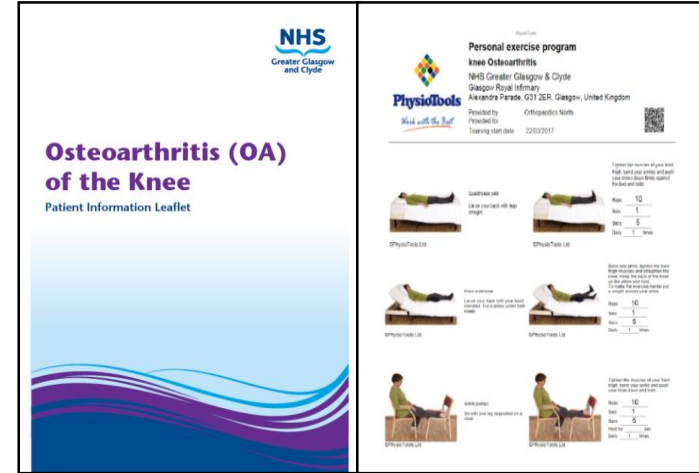
- Prepares patient for their consultation
- Enhances consent

# “OPT-IN” - Orthopaedic Dept, GRI (2017 – 20)

## REFERRAL



**CLINICAL INFORMATION  
SENT OUT  
+  
“Opt-in” (no time limit)**

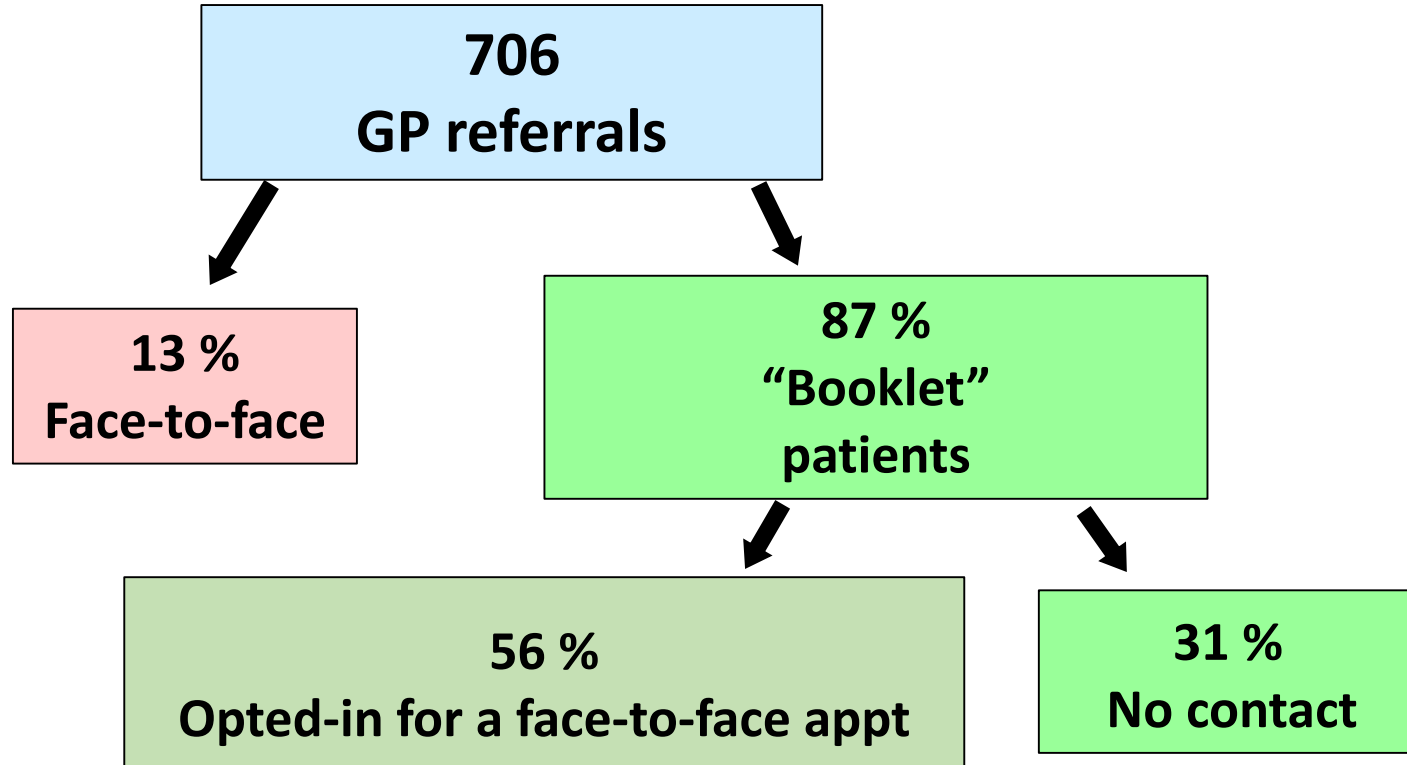


**“It is entirely your decision when you access the Orthopaedics Service.  
THERE IS NO NEED TO GO TO YOUR GP TO BE RE-REFERRED BACK TO THE  
ORTHOPAEDIC DEPARTMENT – JUST CONTACT US DIRECTLY.”**



# “OPT-IN”

Orthopaedic Department, Glasgow Royal Infirmary 2017 – 19

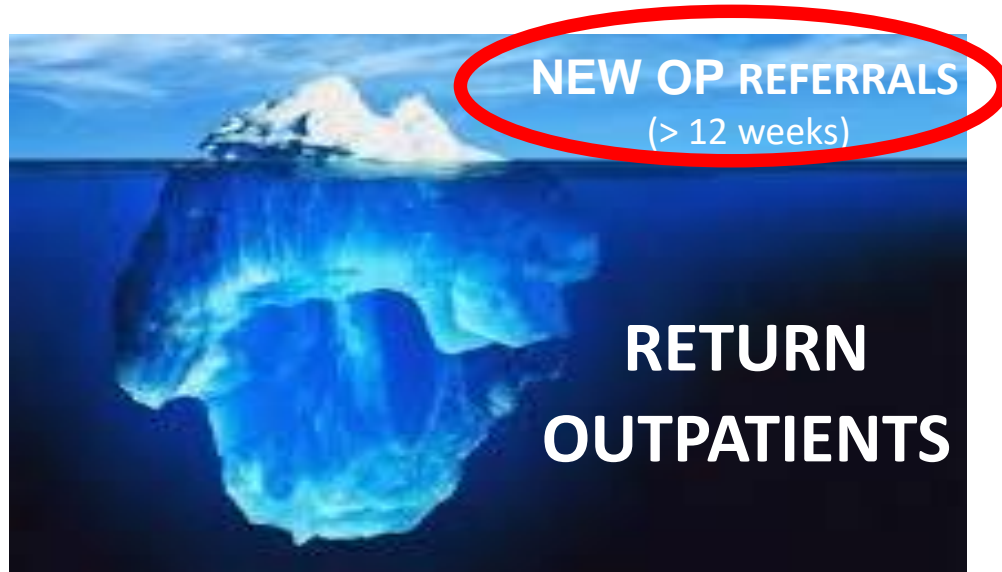


# PATIENT QUESTIONNAIRE (n=150)

**approx 90% were satisfied with information / process**

**- no statistical difference between patient groups  
(Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation)**

# TRADITIONAL OP MODEL



Many patients attend for routine “check-ups” with no added value  
Urgent appointments often difficult to obtain as no extra OP capacity

# DISCHARGE – PIR (PATIENT INITIATED REVIEW)

Selected patients ***discharged*** with an explanation how  
- PIR puts them ***“in charge”***

Verbal / written information provided  
- how to self-care / self-refer using a helpline  
***(without seeing their GP)***

# PATIENTS / STAFF / SERVICE / TAX-PAYERS



## BENEFIT FROM REDUCTION OF UNNECESSARY INTERACTION

- Discharge PIR for Hip / Knee Replacements adopted across Scotland
  - CMO endorsed consensus statement Dec 2019
- Potentially > 30,000 unnecessary appointments can be avoided in 1 year

# REALISTIC MEDICINE

CAN WE:



**IMPROVED  
COMMUNICATION WITH  
PATIENTS**

# Discussion on interface working – Part 1

**Dr Michelle Watts**

Medical Advisor (Primary Care Division),  
Scottish Government

# Supporting primary care interface working – where it's working well and why



**Dr Elaine Turner**  
Clinical Lead for Interface, RCGP Scotland



# Summary

- **Principles of Interface project**
- **Practical examples**
- **Support from RCGP**
- **Enablers and barriers**
- **Other support**
- **Future**

# Crossing over – a risky business



Rod Sampson: Patients' perspectives on the interface

# Principles

- RCGP Scotland work by Dr Carey Lunan, Executive Officer (Interface) 2015-2017
- 3 year project: RCGP Scotland Clinical Lead and project manager to support development of Interface groups within Health Boards
- Rationale for groups
  - To reduce risk of errors, improve services and patient care
  - To reduce risk of professional friction at interfaces of care
- Outcomes – **confident patients and happier staff**
  - Reduced harm
  - Increased efficiency
  - Increased effectiveness of care

# Effective Interface Examples

- Grampian: Re-Connect - work shadowing, PBSGL
- D&G: Standard template for clinic letters, 'sorting shop'
- GGC: Clarify roles; manage transfers of workload



# RCGP Project Support

- Scoping exercise to provide current status report on Groups – 9HBs have dedicated Group, FV and Borders have other Group, Island Boards have no Group
- Baseline Board surveys on Interface working – 5 HBs
- Development of support materials for Interface Groups – On RCGP website
- Sharing of learning through Newsletter and Webinars with Lead clinicians – 2 meetings held
- Evaluation of effectiveness of Interface Groups and exit strategy – end of project

# Survey: Key Findings - Why We Need Groups

- Consistent across 5 HBs -FV, Fife, Lanarkshire, WI, D&G
- 20-25% GP response rate
- Need for recognised mechanisms to report **SEAs**, for feedback and improvement
- Existing interface **structures** need improved
- **Communication** methods need improved
- Poor **IT** interfaces for sharing all clinical information
- Reduced opportunities to **meet and learn** together
- Poor inter-professional **relationships**
- A **desire to improve** the situation



# Interface Group activities

- **Communications:** IDL, referrals, clinic letters, prescriptions
  - **Interface work:** Clarification of roles and responsibilities
  - **Management of test results:** who is responsible etc
  - **Methods of communication:** dedicated phones, email, Gateway advice
  - **Patient Safety:** Significant event analyses, prescribing
  - **Relationships:** staff engagement, opportunities to meet
- Different Board areas have different priorities

# Enablers & Barriers

- Support from HB for Groups
- Equal representation from 1<sup>o</sup> and 2<sup>o</sup> care
- IT and QI support
- Ability to resolve issues
- Clear position in governance structure
- Enthusiastic, connected membership
- **Make the Interface someone's job**



# Other relevant workstreams and support

- RCGP Effective Interface Module
- BMA/ARC Joint Principles statement
- GP Clusters and QI
- Digital Health Strategy/IT developments
- Access Collaborative and sub-groups
- Realistic Medicine
- Patient Safety and SEAs

# Future Work

- Rebuild connections with I-F Groups
- Wide consultation on future need and support for Interface Groups
- Write report to share with SG and partners of project outcome and proposals for future direction



# Example of interface working between primary and secondary care – OOH Interface

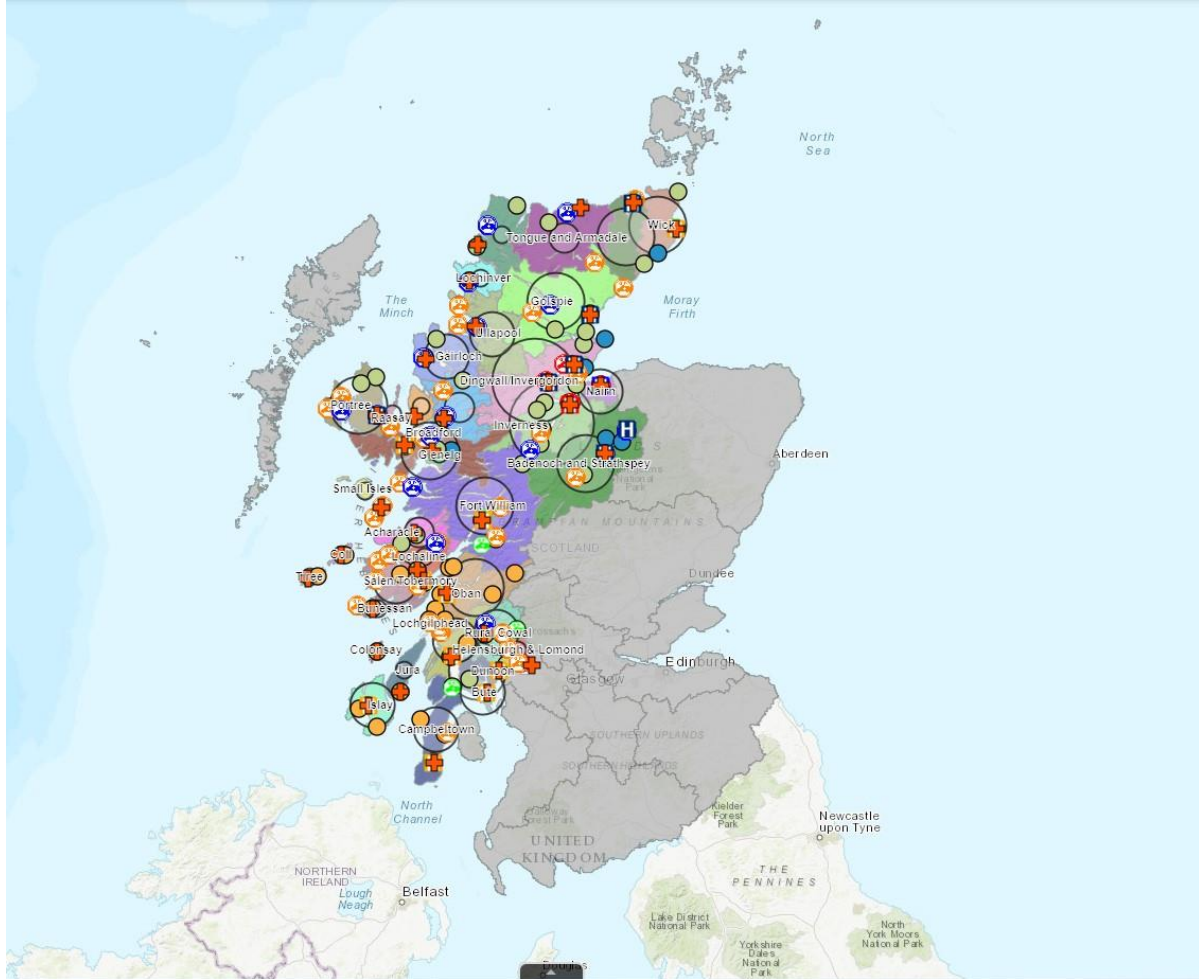


**Dr Lorien Cameron-Ross**  
Clinical Director (Out of Hours), NHS Highland

# NHS Highland Urgent Care Service



Dr Lorien Cameron-Ross (Clinical Director) - 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020



# Highland Urgent Care Service

# Our Challenges

- Geography (professional & patient isolation)
- Population
- Availability of clinical staff
- IT/phone signal
- Transport links
- Weather
- Seasonal increases patient population

# Our solutions

- Flexibility in how/where care is delivered & who delivers it
- Centralised Hub with expert staff & knowledge base
- Centralised Professional-to-Professional line,
- Centralised Palliative Care Helpline and Covid Hub GP (often working remote which adds a variety of local knowledge)

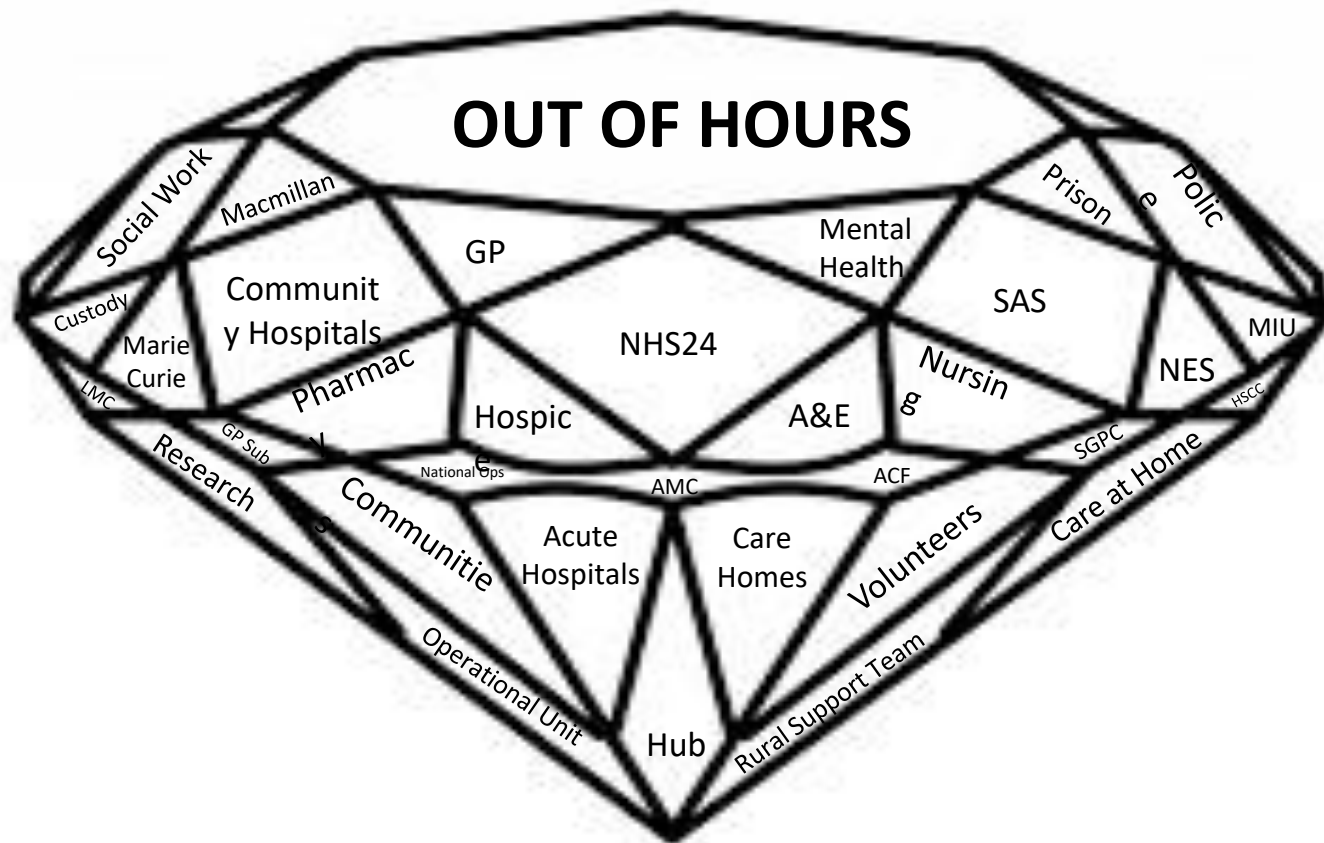
# Team of Teams; New Rules of Engagement for a Complex World - Stanley McChrystal (2015)

*“Organisations must be networked, not siloed, in order to succeed.”*

*“The key lies not in the number of elements, but in the nature of their integration – the wiring of trust and purpose.”*

*“Sharing information would help build relationships and the two together would kindle a new, coherent, adaptive entity that could win the fight.”*





# OUT OF HOURS



# Discussion on interface working – Part 2

**Dr Scott Jamieson**

Executive Officer (Quality Improvement), Royal  
College of General Practitioners Scotland

# Closing remarks

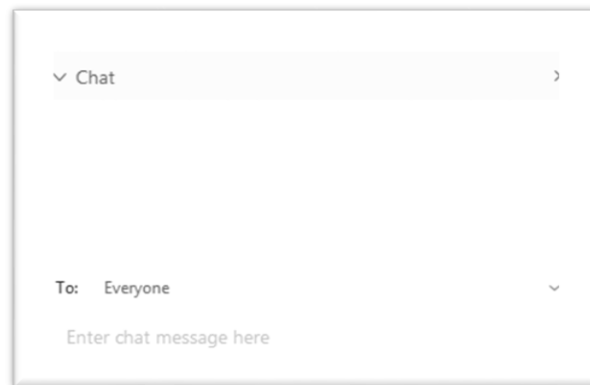


**Jill Gillies**

Portfolio Lead, Primary Care Improvement Portfolio,  
Healthcare Improvement Scotland

# Next steps

- Evaluation survey ➔ **link in the chatbox**
- Follow up email
- Next WebEx in January



- Primary Care Improvement Portfolio Autumn/Winter Offer

# Our Autumn/Winter Support Offer to Primary Care Services

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Primary Care Improvement Portfolio completed an extensive review with our stakeholders to identify our priority areas for improvement and redesign support. Our aim is to support primary care services to **build resilience** and **deliver high quality** care by supporting implementation of the interventions highlighted below.



Support general practice to implement safe and effective processes for **Care Navigation**



Support general practice to implement **Serial Prescribing** safely and efficiently



Enabling improvement in **Anticipatory Care Planning (ACP)**

All activity will be underpinned by the Primary Care Learning System



# Care Navigation

[Care Navigation in General Practice: 10-Step Guide](#) launched as part of the Primary Care Communications Toolkit.

To register for a 1-hour workshop, visit [bit.ly/CN10WS](https://bit.ly/CN10WS)

	02 Dec	03 Dec	04 Dec	08 Dec	09 Dec	10 Dec	11 Dec	15 Dec
Lunchtime	1 – 2 pm	1 – 2 pm	1 – 2 pm	1 – 2 pm	1 – 2 pm	1 – 2 pm	1 – 2 pm	1 – 2 pm
Afternoon	3:30 – 4:30 pm	3:30 – 4:30 pm	3:30 – 4:30 pm	3:30 – 4:30 pm	3:30 – 4:30 pm	3:30 – 4:30 pm	3:30 – 4:30 pm	3:30 – 4:30 pm

## Introduction

To support resilience in primary care services during COVID-19, we developed this 10-step guide to support general practices to implement safe and effective care navigation processes. Care navigation makes the best use of GP practice and wider primary care resources to help patients be seen by the right person, at the right time and in the right place. Effective care navigation increases GP capacity and improves outcomes and the overall care experience for people, families and staff.

## Background

Since March 2018, the ihub's Practice Administrative Staff Collaborative (PASC) has worked with over 200 practice across Scotland to develop, test and scale up safe and effective care navigation processes within GP practices using quality improvement methods and shared learning opportunities. This guide brings together the key processes, resources and insights developed through PASC's work into one document. It is designed to support practice teams to either set up their care navigation processes or rapidly review existing processes to improve patient outcomes and sustain practice resilience and sustainability.

## About this resource

Setting up care navigation processes in your practice is straightforward and this guide outlines the essential steps required. For additional support, this guide is accompanied by an [introductory launch webinar](#), and a [series of follow-up virtual workshops](#) along with [access to practical bespoke support](#). For further details about the support available email: [his.pcpteam@nhs.scot](mailto:his.pcpteam@nhs.scot).

The guide also signposts to a [series of other related materials](#) produced by our national partners including Scottish Government, NHS Scotland, NHS Education Scotland, NHS Inform and NHS Near Me. For the full Care Navigation Toolkit click on this [link](#).

- 01 How ready is your practice for care navigation?
- 02 What does your team currently know about care navigation?
- 03 What do patients know about care navigation & local services?
- 04 What care navigation is already happening in your practice?
- 05 Who else could you navigate to in your practice and local area?
- 06 Which services will you start navigating to?
- 07 How will you navigate safely and effectively to other services?
- 08 Do your team members have all the skills they need?
- 09 How will your patients know about your new processes?
- 10 How will you know if your new processes work for everyone?

Additional support available upon request, from January 2021

# Find out more about our offer

Download the summary of [our Autumn/Winter Support Offer to Primary Care Services](#).

Access the recording and resources from the [Introducing our Autumn/Winter Support Offer webinar](#) where we outlined our primary care priorities and our improvement support offer.

## Read more about the programmes

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Care Navigation

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Serial Prescribing

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Anticipatory Care Planning (ACP)

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Primary Care Learning System



### Keep in touch

Website: [ihub.scot/primary-care](https://ihub.scot/primary-care)

Twitter: [@SPSP\\_PC](#) [#PCImprove](#)

Email: [his.pcpteam@nhs.scot](mailto:his.pcpteam@nhs.scot)



Thank  
you