



COVID 19 SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FOR GP SAFEGUARDING LEADS –

Dear Primary care colleagues

The NCL safeguarding team would like to thank you for your continued hard work to ensure that our most vulnerable patients are protected during this unprecedented time.

We would like to highlight the need to be extra vigilant and continue to refer any safeguarding concerns to Children and Adult Social Care/DVA agencies.

For many children, young people and adults, the need to stay at home and isolate will result in increasing vulnerabilities. The results may potentially be an increase in all types of abuse and violence as well as even greater isolation.

If within your surgeries you have patients that you have provided additional support to because of their vulnerabilities, please consider contacting that patient as their vulnerability will not have decreased with this current crisis.

THINK CHILD THINK FAMILY – This recognises the amplified inter-relationship and vulnerability of adult and child safeguarding in this time of isolation at home. The additional pressures of potential financial difficulties, isolation with an abusive partner etc; will have implications emotionally on all members of a family.

Safeguarding adult / Child Protection conferences, Child in Need, MARAC and other safeguarding meetings are now being conducted virtually. Please continue to contribute to these wherever possible.

Your surgery may also be contacted by the Children's MASH team for information to complete safeguarding inquiries and this information is still critical to social care being able to assess a child and family's needs holistically.

Antenatal referrals: Ensure a full medical, social and mental health history is sent to the midwifery service.

It is important to highlight any possible safeguarding concerns. If you are aware that the mother to be has self-referred, please ensure that this information is shared with midwifery and other multi-agency colleagues as needed, particularly as the midwifery service, are in certain circumstances, undertaking telephone bookings.

Children subject to a Child Protection Plan , Children who are Looked After, Care leavers and Adults in need of support are additionally vulnerable, at increased risk of exploitation, physical and mental ill health. Please prioritise their care and be vigilant to any possible safeguarding issues that might arise.

Face to face, training is suspended until further notice as part of relaxing non-essential GP work.

Where to access support and advice

Please follow your usual local pathways for advice and referral; your safeguarding leads are available to provide advice and support. However urgent concerns should be referred directly to Children or Adults Social Care in your area.

Domestic Violence Support

National DV helpline: 0808 2000 247

Immediate danger call 99 (if unable to speak press 55 and assistance will be given)

Barnet

Referral Pathway for Domestic abuse:

Barnet

Barnet Solace Advocacy and Support Service

With an allocated Advisor, they will provide practical and emotional support, crises intervention and risk management support.

Telephone : **0203 874 5003**

Email: **barnet.advocacy@solacewomensaid.org**

Enfield

Solace Women's Aid duty numbers are 020 3795 5068 and/or 07483 097320

Haringey

Haringey domestic Abuse helpline 10am-5.30pm
0300 0120213

Islington

DV and gender based violence contact Solace in Islington who provide free and confidential support for women and men in Islington affected by abuse.

Call **020 3795 5070** or email **advocacy@solacewomensaid.org**

(lines are open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm)

Victim Support freephone 0808 168 9291 (lines are open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm and Saturday, 9am-5pm).

Support outside opening hours, call the Supportline

on freephone 0808 1689 111 or request support via the **[Victim Support website](#)**

Camden

Camden Safety Net are working with all health referrals . Please note they have a dedicated NHS email for this . Please see below

camden.safetynet@nhs.net

Thank you from NCL CCG Safeguarding Teams.