New Resources from RCSLT

RCSLT guidance and resources are available here and will be regularly updated. Non-member students can apply for access here.

UK and Scottish Government advice, guidance and circulars are available here and here.

- **Weekly COVID-19 Research Digest** available here including articles on COVID-19 rehab and stroke.
- **COVID-19 Data Collection Tool** and resources are now available here – use the ‘Register’ button on the top bar.
- **New Guidance** – SLT led endoscopic procedures in the COVID-19 pandemic available here
- ‘Twitter Takeovers’ @GivingVoiceUK please promote if you are on Twitter
- **Webinar series** – Fri 15 May ‘Laryngectomy’ details here

RCSLT Scotland Team Activity

**AGP and Dysphagia Assessment** – The IJDC is due to publish a paper and experts from Oxford University are using it to advise PHE. RCSLT Scotland has communicated with HPS who have been asked to consider our evidence by clinical leads from Public Health Scotland and the CAHPOs team. The ASN / GIRFEC Team have also been informed and the national lead for CYP with Exceptional Healthcare needs has also provided support.

Despite this our HPS colleagues continue to be unresponsive. We are not alone in that physios, paramedics, dieticians and radiographers are facing similar issues. Kim has approached AHP professional bodies to escalate influencing activities together by seeking a formal meeting with HPS, and if that fails, contacting the Cab. Sec. for Health.

**PPE for those providing ongoing care for people who regularly cough and / or produce thickened saliva** – along with Scottish Care we are producing a joint statement.

**Scottish Parliament Inquiries** – we will be contributing to these inquiries in the coming weeks and months. If any SLTs would like to get involved please contact us. Inquiries will examine testing, care homes, the Decision Making Framework and equalities impacts.

**Consumer Scotland Bill** – Ruth Maguire MSP thanked RCSLT Scotland and Kim for supporting her amendments to the Bill introducing new duties on Consumer Scotland to support and implement inclusive communication approaches.
New Health Resources

- **Keycomm resources** for supporting adults with respiratory ailments [here](#).
- **National Wellbeing Hub** for health and social care teams [here](#).
- **Health & Social Care Knowledge Hub** covid networks:
  - Midlothian Primary Care/ GP COVID Resources
  - Scottish Elected Members Covid-19 Network
  - Hospital at Home Scotland

New from Government

- **Death in Service**: Jeane Freeman has updated the Health & Sport Committee about the Government’s plans to provide a death in service benefit for all NHS Scotland staff.
- **Unpaid Carers**: The Scottish Government is proposing an additional investment of £19.2m to the Carer’s Allowance Supplement in recognition of the extra pressure carers are under as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Online Connectivity**: The Scottish Government has announced a new £5m programme to offer an internet connection and a laptop or tablet to vulnerable people who are not already online.
- **Healthcare Workers**: The Scottish Government and COSLA have confirmed arrangements for furloughing health and social care staff and personal assistants who are shielding. It advises employers to apply to the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, while personal assistant employers who are not eligible for the scheme are directed to forthcoming self-directed support guidance.
- **Mental Health**: Jeane Freeman announced a further investment in mental health services to support families and young people during the coronavirus outbreak. This included a funding boost for organisations that support people with autism.

New Resources

- **National Deaf Children’s Society** resources and guidance [here](#).

RCSLT Scotland Contacts

**Kim Hartley Kean**, Head of RCSLT Scotland Office 07712 525 329
- Monday – Thursday, 9am – 6pm

**Robert MacBean**, Policy Officer
- Tuesday and Wednesday 10.30 – 4.30pm; Thursday 10.30 – 3.30pm

**Andrena Wilson**, PA and AHPFS Secretariat 07854 081 973
- Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9am - 4pm and Wednesday 8.30am – 1pm

**RCSLT Information Team** 0207 378 3012 Monday to Friday, 9-5pm