

Bolton Community Practice – Patient Bulletin

20 July 2020

Issue 3

BOLTON COMMUNITY PRACTICE PATIENT ADVISORY GROUP (PAG)



Face Coverings

Please **do not** ask your doctor for a letter saying that you have a medical reason not to wear a mask.

You should self-declare, and your doctor does not, therefore, need to provide you with a letter.

Who is exempt from wearing a face covering?

It is not compulsory for shop workers to wear them, but the Government says employers should recommend their use, particularly where other safety measures are not used such as visors.

According to the Government guidelines, shoppers do not need to wear a face covering for the following legitimate reasons:

- young children under the age of 11 not being able to put on, wear or remove a face covering because of a physical or mental illness or impairment, or disability
- if putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause you severe distress
- if you are travelling with or assisting someone who relies on lip reading to communicate
- to avoid harm or injury, or the risk of harm or injury, to yourself or others
- to avoid injury, or to escape a risk of harm, and you do not have a face covering with you
- to eat or drink, but only if it's necessary

- to take medication
- if a police officer or other official requests you remove your face covering

You are also permitted to remove a face covering if asked for age identification or if speaking to someone who relies on lip reading for communication

Handy WHO Guidelines to Wear Your Mask Safely

<https://www.lifesavvy.com/29102/check-out-these-handy-who-guidelines-to-wear-your-mask-safely/>

Patient Contact Details

A number of emails sent recently from the practice to individual patients have bounced back.

Please check that your home address, telephone number (s) and email address along with the mandatory fields are up to date on your patient record.

To update your patient record, go to the BCP website (use the link below), select 'Patient Record', select 'Update Personal details', complete the relevant sections and send.

BCP Contact details (01204 463444)

BCP website:

<https://www.boltoncommunitypractice.nhs.uk/>

BCP email:

bolton.communitypractice@nhs.net

PAG Contact details

PAG website:

<http://bcpcicpag.co.uk/>

PAG email:

bcp.cic.pag@gmail.com