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To all GPs and Practices
North West London

Date: 27th July 2011

Dear Colleague,

Re: Upper GI Endoscopy Update

I attach a copy of the new joint **NWL Cluster Direct Access Endoscopy form** that has been developed following general feedback and a subsequent PPwT clinical review meeting.

The meeting was well attended by both primary and secondary clinicians from across the Cluster, with the main aim of agreeing the content of the form but also an opportunity to discuss the referral pathway across primary and secondary care. From the discussions a new **NWL Direct Access Endoscopy template form** has been designed and we ask all clinicians to *use this instead of any other forms they may have or the old PPwT endoscopy form*. It is attached as Vision, and EMIS merge templates and also as a pdf.

I am writing to advise you of the salient points that were agreed in terms of clarification and implementation:

- The Trusts agreed with the thresholds to referral, and so they will be maintaining internal audits to ensure compliance with the thresholds. This will be part of their JAG (Joint Advisory Group on GI Endoscopy) submission, so this will have external review as well.
- This means that we **no longer need to use the PPwT process for upper GI endoscopy**, but all trusts will use this standard referral template to allow them to run their internal audits and provide a safe service. If the receiving Trust doesn't feel that there is insufficient information on a partly completed form then they have been asked to return the form to the referrer so that a safe procedure can be arranged.
- This means that acute trusts no longer need to use the PPwT process for upper GI endoscopy, but all trusts will use this as a standard template to allow them to run their internal audits. If the trust receives incomplete forms from GPs they have been advised to return the form to the referrer for the clinical information they required to provide a safe service.

We hope that this has allowed us to standardise safe access and is a streamlined process for both primary and secondary care.

If you have difficulties loading the templates into your clinical system or any queries relating to the form or new process, please do not hesitate to contact directly.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely



Dr Mark Spencer
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Enc: NWL Cluster Direct Access/PPwT Form