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**From:** BLACK, Mary (PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND) [/O=MAIL/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BFF9B113D85D439CB04D9662FA6ECBF5-MARY.BLACK1]  
**Sent:** 20/05/2020 7:42:15 PM  
**To:** RAMSAY, Colin (PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND) [colin.ramsay@nhs.net]  
**CC:** MCMENAMIN, Jim (PUBLIC HEALTH SCOTLAND) [jim.mcmenamin@nhs.net]  
**Subject:** care homes guidance

Colin – picked up this from the DsPH minutes. Please let me know who else has been contact in relation to yellow highlight so I can get a full picture.

Thanks, Mary

Colin Ramsay updated that the HPS guidance on testing in care homes was revised at the request of Scottish Government to clarify areas of policy and reissued on 16 May 2020. As a result of the announcement on 17 May 2020 to extend it to offer testing to all staff in all care homes on a weekly basis. HPS and CMO office were not consulted around this. As a result HPS attempted to identify the impact of what this might be. Based on the figures they calculated the scope to test all staff is very limited. Discussion followed.

The group are concerned around the clinical advice to develop this policy. HPS have also made their views known through various channels around the lack of justification and rationale.

There is also a major issue in gathering the data and the scientific advice given to the First Minister. CR agreed to circulate the latest version of his paper so that the group can refer to it when they respond to SG. A letter will be drafted and sent to Jill Young, CMO, DCMO and any other key players. Linda de Caestecker, Graham Foster assisted by Colin Ramsay will work together on the response and offer based on our professional advice. Would an expert group to advise be possible?

**Dr. Mary E Black** FRCP FPH MD MPH DTM&H DCH DOBST.

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