NCCP patient pathway for attendance for SACT on a haematology/oncology day ward during the COVID-19 pandemic

2 weeks prior to first attendance for SACT

- Patients should be asked to cocoon for two weeks prior to first attendance for SACT if possible.
- The extent of cocooning should take into account the potential benefits and harms of COVID-19 infection and delaying treatment.
- Patients should be informed to pay special attention to hand hygiene, social distancing and mask wearing advice.
- Patients should be asked to note any COVID-19 signs or symptoms in a diary.

Up to 72 hours prior to attendance for SACT

The following patients may be considered for an RT-PCR COVID-19 test:
- Patients receiving SACT regimens where a positive COVID-19 test would influence the decision to proceed with SACT based on clinical judgement.

Hospital to contact the patient to confirm:
- Has the patient been diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Does the patient have any signs or symptoms of COVID-19?
- Has the patient been identified as a close contact of someone diagnosed with COVID-19?

Where an RT-PCR test has been carried out to inform the risk:benefit of treatment, the result should be reviewed by the team prior to proceeding with treatment.

For COVID-19 exposure and treatment decisions please see NCCP guidance.

Day of attendance

- On arrival the patient is screened for signs or symptoms of COVID-19.
- A patient may wear their own mask or they will be provided with a mask if they choose to wear one.
- Any person accompanying the patient should wait outside if possible.

Post SACT, the patient is given information and asked to contact the team if they develop any signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

Post treatment

- Patients should be informed to pay special attention to hand hygiene, social distancing and mask wearing advice.
- Patients should be informed to contact the day ward if they develop signs or symptoms of COVID-19.
- Patients should be provided with information on how to access emergency care if they become unwell.

On completion of SACT treatment patients should be advised as to how long they should continue to follow cocooning recommendations, according to the predicted duration of ongoing immunosuppression.

1 Please refer to ‘NCCP advice for Medical Professionals on the management of patients undergoing Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (chemotherapy) in response to the current novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic’ for further information.