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During the current COVID- 19 Pandemic……………………………………… is following UK Government advice and self- isolating for 7 days ( living alone) or 14 days (living as part of a household).

As you will be aware, by Law, medical evidence is not required for the first 7 days of sickness. After 7 days, employers may use their discretion around the need for medical evidence if an employee is unable to return to work.

To independently issue Medical Certificates for all those affected by the need to self – isolate would add further pressure to already stretched resources.

It has been suggested that employers use their discretion around the need for medical evidence for a period of absence where an employee is advised to stay at home either as they are unwell themselves, or live with someone who is, in accordance with the Public Health advice issued by the Government.

This will allow GPs to focus on their patients clinical needs.

Your co-operation at this time is appreciated.

DR MIYURU AMARAPALA & DR RICHARD C BARNES