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Territorial Board Chief Executives
Medical Directors
Directors of Public Health
Primary Care Leads
Heads of Procurement
Logistics/Stores Managers
Resilience Officers
GP Practice Managers

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Dear Colleague

FACEMASKS FOR GP PRACTICES: SHELF-LIFE EXTENSION

I am writing to you today regarding concerns which have been raised around the stock of facemasks which is being issued to GP Practices this week from national stockpiles.

The stock which has been issued was manufactured by Cardinal/Medline and had an original expiry dating back, typically to 2016. They now have a shelf-life expiry date sticker, typically with a date of 2021.

I would like to clarify that this stock has been subject to rigorous assessment and shelf-life extension by the manufacturer and is therefore safe to use.

I hope this allays any concerns you may have.

Yours sincerely

Dr Gregor Smith
Deputy Chief Medical Officer

