New UCLPartners Search Tools to Support RCGP Guidance on LTC Recovery

UCLPartners has developed new searches to support the June 2022 RCGP guidance on long term condition recovery as we emerge from the pandemic. The guidance recommends that practices should consider offering earlier reviews to patients with long term conditions who have not been seen for over 12 months, to those who are at higher risk of deterioration and exacerbation, and to patients with potential undiagnosed asthma or COPD.

The UCLPartners LTC recovery search tools will allow practices to rapidly identify these patients and will complement the existing search tools included in the UCLPartners Proactive Care Frameworks.

The table below shows the search criteria that have been used to identify relevant consultations in the last 12 months.

Condition	Search Criteria	Notes
Hypertension No review in 12 months	On hypertension register and no BP recorded in last 12 months	As a first step health care assistants or other staff could contact patients to obtain up to date home readings where they have a BP monitor or to arrange a face-to-face appointment where needed. The UCLPartners Proactive Care website includes a range of helpful resources for staff and patients checking BP at home.
Type 1 and 2 diabetes No review in 12 months	On diabetes register and no HbA1c in last 12 months	A desktop review as a first step will help identify patients who are already booked for review or under active care by specialist teams.
Severe mental illness No physical health check in 12 months	On SMI register and no BP recorded in last 12 months	BP measurement as proxy for physical health check.
Asthma No review in 12 months	No consultations in last 12 months that include codes for: • Asthma or COPD review • Asthma or COPD consultation • Asthma or COPD exacerbation	Both asthma and COPD are included in the searches as there is sometimes overlap in coding for these conditions. A desktop review as a first step will identify where patients have been reviewed but without the use of appropriate Snomed codes or with free-text only.

COPD No review in 12 months	No consultations in last 12 months that include codes for: • Asthma or COPD review • Asthma or COPD consultation • Asthma or COPD exacerbation	Both asthma and COPD are included in the searches as there is sometimes overlap in coding for these conditions. A desktop review as a first step will identify where patients have been reviewed but without the use of appropriate Snomed codes or with free-text only.
Asthma/COPD Case finder	Not on the asthma or COPD registers but prescribed 3 or more SABA inhalers in last 12 months	
Asthma Exacerbation risk	On asthma register and prescribed two or more oral prednisolone courses in the last 12 months	A desktop review as a first step will identify where patients are already under active care/review
COPD Exacerbation risk	On COPD register and prescribed two or more oral prednisolone courses in the last 12 months	A desktop review as a first step will identify where patients are already under active care/review

In addition to these LTC recovery searches, the UCLPartners Proactive Care Frameworks provide broader support to practices to optimise care for patients with long term conditions. These comprehensive framework resources include:

1. Search and stratification tools that help practices to identify patients who need to be reviewed more urgently and those whose review is less urgent.
2. Protocols and pathways for staff such as HCAs and wellbeing coaches to provide all patients with structured support for patient education, self-management and behaviour change.
3. Slide sets for clinicians – focusing on the '*how-to'* of optimising clinical management in real world primary care.
4. Workforce training framework
5. Implementation guidance
6. Case studies
7. Digital resources for staff and patients to support clinical care and self care.