**Governance Statement**

The *All Wales Guideline for Long COVID* is part of the Adferiad (Recovery) Programme for the health division in Welsh Government providing direct support to health and care professionals across NHS Wales.

Background to this guideline

To supplement the NICE clinical guideline published in December 2020, the Welsh Government and the peer group of Directors of Therapies (DoTHs) for each of the seven Health Boards across NHS Wales collaborated with other key stakeholders including Associate Medical Directors (AMDs) to draw up the *All Wales Community Pathway for Long-COVID*. This sets out a framework in line with *A Healthier Wales* that underpins local pathways to ensure a consistent approach across all health boards. The *All Wales Community Pathway for Long-COVID* underpins the clinical guideline - the *All Wales Guideline for Long COVID*, which is available for all health and care professionals across NHS Wales.

Guideline development

The supplemental online national toolkit provides health and care professionals in primary and community care settings across Wales with a holistic and integrated suite of high quality resources and training, enabling them to help and advise people recovering from Long COVID. The guideline and supplemental educational material is developed through a 5-step process. This ensures the information offered within the guideline is correct, up-to-date and relevant for practitioners across NHS Wales.

Step 1: Identify the area of guidance and sponsor organisation

Step 2: The scope, purpose, and target audience for the guideline identified

Step 3: Develop the guideline in close collaboration with key NHS and Government stakeholders

Step 4: The guideline undergoes a governance and consultation process

Step 5: The final guideline and supplemental resources are published

Governance process

All guidelines are developed within a governance framework with a four-level process for sign off by the Guideline Governance Team. Items within the governance map are reviewed monthly increasing to three monthly once the guideline has been formally implemented. The areas governed include:

* Content – delivered in video and text format
* Terminology – choice of words and phrases used
* Contributors – content providers and reviewers

Accessing the guideline

The Institute of Clinical Science and Technology (ICST) host and manage the *All Wales Guideline for Long COVID*, which is available on the [www.allwales.icst.org.uk](http://www.allwales.icst.org.uk) platform. This is freely accessible to healthcare professionals across Wales. This will provide a consistent and seamless experience for practitioners in primary and community care setting as ICST also hosts and delivers the secondary care guideline and the community pathway for managing patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19.