



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 14th November

Help us grow our audience - LMC Distribution list

We would like to grow our LMC audience. If you know any GPs or PMs in your practice that don't receive this Brieflet and/or is not on our distribution list, please ask them to [get in touch with us!](#)

General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

The LMC has officially launched GPAS this week. All GPs & PMs should have received an email last Thursday which includes a guide on how to enter and extract your data to GPAS.

This morning we sent out an email to all Practice Managers asking you to input your data via a form which covers 5 questions. If you are a Practice Manager and have not received this email [please let us know](#). We will be sending the same email out every Tuesday asking you to input your data for Monday. We will also send out a reminder every Wednesday followed by a publication of anonymous SitRep results on Friday.

Since going live this morning we have had an encouraging amount of input into GPAS. Thank you to the Practices that have completed so far! Please input your data to GPAS so that we can have a good overall return rate and can highlight some of the excellent hard work and the pressures that Practices are experiencing. It should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete and can be done alongside the ICB submission.

Filling the GPAS out in the following simple steps:

1. Decide on your alert status using the key provided in the GPAS Guide.
2. Click on General Practice Workload Tool in EMIS. Set the search date for Monday of this week, and note the Total booked appointments value. *If applicable to your system: Add any other uncaptured patient contacts for the Monday. The total is the "patient contacts" to be noted on the GPAS.*
3. Click on the link in the GPAS email from the LMC.
4. Enter suitable alert status
5. Enter your locality
6. Enter comments if applicable
7. Enter the total patient contacts for Monday
8. Enter the list size for your practice
9. Press Submit. All done.

NHS Suicide Postvention Guidance for staff

The University of Surrey, Keele University, and the University of Birmingham have developed postvention guidance for NHS services on how to support staff after the death by suicide of a colleague. The Social Partnership Forum Workforce Interest Group, of which the BMA is a member, have been asked to circulate the [executive summary](#) and [full report](#) for your information.





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Rebuild General Practice Campaign

On Thursday 9th November, the LMC hosted a Roadshow together with the Rebuild General Practice Campaign team from BB Partners. We brought together GPs from across the Northwest who were interested in the campaign. There was brainstorming, networking and role plays with commitments made from those who attended to influencing and advocating for the profession.



Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs are a supporter of the Rebuild General Practice campaign. This is a grassroots campaign led by GPs, calling for a proper, long-term plan to Rebuild General Practice.

We are asking the Government, patients, and our colleagues across the NHS to join us in building a long-term patient centred vision for general practice.

Including:

- A plan to retain the GP workforce;
- Fair funding as part of the wider NHS;
- Greater freedom and autonomy to do our jobs.

Find out how you can get involved with the campaign at rebuildgp.co.uk/get-involved

Sessional GP Forum

The LMC hosts a bimonthly Sessional GP Forum for all GPs that are not GP Partners. This includes Salaried, Locum, Portfolio, Retainer and First 5 GPs. The meetings include free training and are arranged according to your needs. The forum is chaired by Dr Suzanne Gaskell, Locum GP and Central Lancashire LMC member. Please encourage your Sessional GP colleagues to attend!

We have created a survey with Dr Suzanne Gaskell to gather ideas and to improve our future meetings.

If you are a Sessional GP in Lancashire & Cumbria, we would appreciate if you could [please complete the following survey](#) which should take no longer than 10 minutes. The closing date is Friday 17th November.





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LMC Soapboxes

The LMC hosts monthly 1 hour drop-in sessions via Microsoft Teams for all Practice Managers and GPs across Lancashire & Cumbria. The LMC soapbox is an opportunity for you to raise anything with your LMC, meet your representatives, hear about the services we can provide but most importantly, we would like to hear from you and how we can support you!

You are welcome to dip in and out - There is no requirement to stay the full hour and you are welcome to just listen.

You will receive posters via email with details of how to join the Soapbox for your area. Upcoming Soapbox's:

- Cumbria: 21st November
- Pennine: 28th November
- Central Lancashire: December TBC
- Fylde Coast: 1st December
- Morecambe Bay: 7th December

Please [let us know](#) if you have any questions!

Accelerated Access to Records Programme update

The BMA GPC has a new webpage with [guidance for practices](#) on how they can provide prospective access to their patients' GP-held medical records safely, where all our resources are available.

Legally, GPs must act in the interests of their patients. As data controllers, they must see to mitigate data protection risks. Practices are required to carry out a [Data Protection Impact Assessment \(DPIA\)](#) exploring the risks and any possible mitigations as part of the implementation of this programme.

The BMA GPC is supportive of patients having access to their records so long as this is safe for patients and safe for GPs. They continue to put forward the case for making access to records on an opt-in basis. If you have any examples of where your practice or patients are being put at risk as a result of the programme, please email info.gpc@bma.org.uk

Read also: [GPs urged to adopt opt-in approach to online patient record access \(bma.org.uk\)](#)

GP trainees committee renames itself the GP registrars committee

The BMA's GP trainees committee has now officially changed its name to the [GP registrars committee](#).

The decision to change the committee name was made to reduce confusion for patients as it better reflects their roles as fully qualified doctors, and it is a step to regaining the professional respect that all GP registrars deserve.

You can read more about how the GP registrars committee is working toward regaining their professional identity in this [blog](#) by the GP registrars committee chair, Dr Malinga Ratwatte.





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UCLAN - Primary Care Education Meetings

- 'Bite sized' CPD educational events for current and prospective placement provider practices
- Wednesday lunchtimes at 12.00 on MS Teams
- Expand on teaching skills for medical students
- For any clinicians within the primary care team

Topics covered will include:

- Theory into practice: effective clinical teaching when time is short - 22nd November
- Interprofessional teaching and learning - 13th December 2023
- Assessment as learning: giving good feedback - 17th January 2024
- Teaching and assessing professionalism - 21st February 2024
- Evidence-based medical education - 13th March 2024

[Confirm your attendance here.](#)

Seasonal Vaccination Update

As of 23 October, the Co-administration template should now be available to all sites who are using the system. NHSE advised that the delays to the co-administration template came about due to the accelerated timelines of the programme. "Pinnacle had to prioritise their workload to ensure that rapid development of POC systems could be achieved. Our digital colleagues worked with Pinnacle to introduce it as soon as possible, recognising that it is a very important functionality for sites."

The additional financial support, which came to an end on 31 October, was put in place to support programme acceleration (i.e. to administer as many Covid-19 vaccinations before the end of October) and to recognise the additional administrative, organisation and delivery costs associated with that ask. The UKHSA and DHSC are responsible for monitoring the epidemiology and advising NHS England where further steps need to be taken in response to emerging Covid-19 variants. They have been monitoring the situation, and do not regard additional measures as necessary at this stage. Therefore, at this point in time, there are no plans to extend the additional financial support. However, it appears that patients are coming forward less quickly this Autumn compared with last. The UKHSA's uptake reports are available [here](#).

Regarding staff vaccination for flu, provision is an employer responsibility and not provided under the NHS flu programme. Frontline primary care staff are not eligible for a free NHS flu vaccination. Therefore, they are not included in the Annual Flu Letter cohorts. They do appear in the enhanced service spec because the decision was taken last year to include frontline primary care staff in the spec to allow for cover under the Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice, as provision of flu vaccinations to these staff is an employer responsibility.

