



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 23rd January

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!](#)

LMC Vacancies

3 out of our 5 Committees have seats available for GP representation:

- Central Lancashire - Greater Preston - 2 seats available
- Lancashire Coastal - 3 seats available
- North Cumbria - 2 seats available

We are keen to hear from GPs, including GP Registrars/ Trainees, who may wish to get involved to represent your constituents. [Please let us know](#) if you are interested in being a LMC member or would like to find out more.

Addressing unhelpful media reports involving GPs

The LMC are aware of negative news coverage relating to general practice and of recent reports in the local press that are causing distress. Like you, we are increasingly frustrated that media attention on General Practice is poorly focused and not placing enough emphasis on the challenges you are facing. We are working hard to address inflammatory stories and dispel their misleading narratives. Our work with the Rebuild General Practice campaign is focused on this, we are lobbying MPs for their support and we are challenging the ICB where their messaging has been inappropriate. To find out more about the Rebuild General Practice campaign and how you can get involved [please visit their website.](#)

General Practice Infographics & Posters

We have created General Practice appointment data infographics and posters for Practices to use in your waiting rooms, websites and social media. These posters raise patient awareness on the current state of General Practice and how practices are operating.

[Please visit our website](#) and feel free to pick and choose the images that are suitable for your practice's needs. Additionally, if you have any ideas for a new infographic that other practices could use [please contact us.](#)

General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

You can see the the last SitRep results below. Results can also be found [on our website.](#)

The data helps us gather a true picture of the pressure's practices are under. When completing the GPAS form please ensure that you are inputting the correct numbers to avoid incorrect data.

[Please let us know](#) if you are a Practice Manager and do not receive the GPAS input emails.





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GP pressures and workforce data

The BMA collate monthly [appointment](#) and [workforce data](#) onto their [website](#). November 2023's data shows that NHSE has 1,881 fewer fully qualified FTE GPs than September 2015. The number of GP practices in England has also decreased by 112 over the past year– reflecting a continued trend of closures as well as mergers primarily due to a lack of workforce that coincides with a rise in patients.

Around 31.5 million appointments were booked in November 2023, with an average of 1.43 million appointments being delivered per working day, which is above the average of 1.39 million per day for the past year. In addition, as of November 2023, there was another record-high of 63.03 million patients registered in England, with an average of 9,977 patients registered per practice. A single full-time GP is now responsible for around 2,300 patients – an increase of 18% since September 2015, demonstrating the ever-mounting workload in general practice.

Online access to records - data breaches from misfiling of records

There is ongoing work continuing behind the scenes focusing on making the online access to records project safer. Outstanding concerns regarding how this was imposed on the profession can be found on the BMA website [here](#).

If you have any examples of potential or actual harm that has arisen, for example: the accidental misfiling of data/letters in the wrong patient's record, or when information should have been withheld from online view in order to prevent harm, but wasn't, and which has only come to light now more patients have access to their records, [please let us know](#) so that we can pass this on to the BMA GPC.

King's New Year Honours

The following GPs have been recognised in the [King's New Year Honours list](#):

- Dr Chandra Kanneganti, Goldenhill Medical Centre, North Staffordshire; North Staffordshire LMC Chair, and GPC England member, has been awarded a CBE for services to general practice.
- Dr Terry John, Firs Medical Centre, Waltham Forest, previous chair of the BMA's International Committee, receiver of the BMA's President's award in 2020-21, and previous GPC England member, has been awarded a BEM for services to medicine.
- Dr Meena Nagpaul, Honeypot Medical Centre and Clinical Director, Harrow East Primary Care Network, has been awarded an MBE for services to the NHS.

Congratulations to all on receiving these much-deserved awards.

NHS Vaccination Strategy

In December NHSE announced their long delayed '[vaccination strategy](#)', following an initial consultation in 2022. The strategy aims to support and boost vaccination rates in England. The BMA GPC will be discussing its approach to this and what it means for General Practice over the coming months.

