



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 30TH April

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)

You can see the the latest SitRep results below. Results can also be found [on our website](#). You can see the [national GPAS SITREP here](#).

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.

Changes to the LMC office

Mariah Mulberry, Member Services Lead, will be going on Maternity Leave this Friday and will join us again in the new year. We wish her all the best for her first baby!

We have a new LMC Meeting Administrator who will be providing administrative support to the 5 LMCs. Tabitha Mitchell - Greaves will be starting this week! We look forward to welcoming Tabitha to our team.

General Practice Appointment Infographics

We have created infographics for Practices to use in your waiting rooms, websites and social media. These infographics raise patient awareness on the current state of General Practice and how practices are operating. Feel free to pick and choose the images that are suitable for your practice's needs [on our website](#). If you would like the images in a different format [please get in touch](#).

COVID Therapeutics

The BMA GPC have updated their COVID Therapeutics guidance. NICE and NHS England are increasing the eligible cohorts this June 2024 and some ICBs are considering decommissioning services with an expectation that GPs prescribe. This is not core general practice work and there are significant interactions between the first line treatment and many common medications. It is, therefore, recommended that GPs do not agree to prescribe this unless as part of an appropriately commissioned service. Read the guidance [here](#).

GP referral pathway to Pharmacy First

Community Pharmacy England has developed [an animation and infographic](#) to help describe the GP referral pathway into the CPCS (Community Pharmacist Consultation Service), primarily aimed at GP practice teams. The animation outlines how referrals work and what pharmacies do with those referrals, as well as the success of NHS 111 referrals into the CPCS.

Read more about [Pharmacy First on this information page for GPs](#).





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NHSE Delivery plan for recovering access to primary care

NHS England has published an [update on the Delivery Plan for Recovering Access to Primary Care and outlined next steps for the year ahead in 2024/25](#).

Continuing to “improve timely access to primary care” and “reducing pressure on staff” remains a continuing aspiration for NHSE for the second year, and their [letter](#) sets out some key areas, such as taking further steps to improve the primary / secondary care interface, increase the number of people self-referring, implementing core elements of modern general practice, and increasing the number of people viewing their health information and ordering repeat prescriptions via the NHS App. Clearly GPCE has proposed alternative approaches which have not yet been adopted by NHSE.

Agenda For Change DHSC Payment - practice nurses

There have been articles published in the past month in some Nursing journals regarding a ‘pay boost’ for practice nurses being funded by the Department of Health and Social Care. This relates to an initiative last year, where the Government offered staff on Agenda for Change pay scales a cash boost - information can be found [here](#).

The majority of practice nurses working in general practices are not working on Agenda for Change contracts which align with AfC pay scales, terms and conditions - those practices will not be eligible to receive the payment.

LMC Vacancies

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

- Lancashire Coastal - 5 seats available
- North Cumbria - 2 seats available
- Central Lancashire – 2 seats available
- Morecambe Bay – 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.

