



## Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

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Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

This Brieflet includes the following topics:

- General Practice Alert State (GPAS)
- Eid Mubarak
- Decommissioning of LES (Lancashire and South Cumbria only)
- LES 25/26 - North Cumbria Only
- Closure of the Lancashire and South Cumbria Medicines Management Group (LSCMMG) website
- TB in Primary Care Research
- General Practice Appointment Infographics - February 2025
- LMC Training Events 2025
- Help us grow our audience



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### General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

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

The data we do not receive prevents us from providing a robust picture of system partners and hinders our efforts to push for more support on your behalf.

We really appreciate you taking the time to help us help you.

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

If someone at your practice needs to be added to the distribution list please email [enquiries@nwlmc.org](mailto:enquiries@nwlmc.org). Submission links are sent out every Tuesday and Wednesday.



## GENERAL PRACTICE ALERT STATE SITREP | 28.03.2025

### LANCASHIRE & CUMBRIA DATA

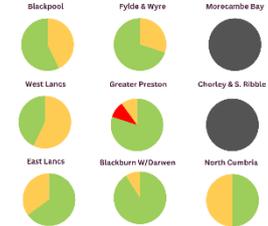
GPAS STATUS	OPEL CONVERSION	CLINICAL ACTIVITY	RETURN RATES
<b>OPEL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29/1000</b>	<b>44%</b>

### IMPORTANT FIGURES

<b>402,051</b>	MIN NUMBER OF PATIENTS COVERED BY AMBER+ PRACTICES (2)
<b>328,614</b>	INDICATIVE NUMBER OF PATIENT CONTACTS IN GENERAL PRACTICE THIS WEEK (2)

### LOCALITY DATA

LOCALITY	GPAS STATUS	OPEL STATUS	CLINICAL ACTIVITY	RETURN RATES
Blackpool	Amber	2	28/1000	44%
Fylde & Wyre	Amber	2	33/1000	56%
Morecambe Bay	Insufficient responses			
West Lancs	Amber	3	31/1000	47%
Greater Preston	Green	1	36/1000	49%
Chorley & S. Ribble	Insufficient responses			
East Lancs	Amber	2	21/1000	44%
Blackburn W/Darwen	Green	1	34/1000	50%
North Cumbria	Amber	3	32/1000	41%



### A SELECTION OF THIS WEEK'S PRACTICE COMMENTS

AMBER+ GPAS is an indicator, GP on long term sick, however on general issue.

### GPAS CHANGE SINCE LAST SITREP

LOCALITY	Last SITREP	This Week	Trend	Note
Blackpool	Amber	2	→	
Fylde & Wyre	Amber	2	→	
Morecambe Bay	Insufficient responses			
West Lancs	Amber	3	→	
Greater Preston	Green	1	→	
Chorley & S. Ribble	Amber	2	→	
East Lancs	Amber	2	→	
Blackburn W/Darwen	Green	1	→	
North Cumbria	Amber	3	→	

### A QUICK GUIDE TO THE GPAS STATES

<b>BLACK</b>	Practice will fail within one month, urgent system improvement required.
<b>RED</b>	Sustainable in the short term, needs system support.
<b>AMBER</b>	Sustainable in the medium term (6 months max), probably needs system support.
<b>GREEN</b>	Fully Sustainable.

### LMC NOTE:

Please continue to share your data with us so that we can ensure the system is aware of any capacity and demand concerns pertaining to General Practices.

1. The figures shown are indicative of the data reported to the system. The figures are not guaranteed. 2. The figures are indicative of the data reported to the system. The figures are not guaranteed.

Please let us know if you have any questions/ issues

## Eid Mubarak

On this joyous occasion of Eid, we would like to extend our warmest wishes to you and your families who are celebrating. May this Eid bring you good health, happiness, and prosperity. As we celebrate, let us remember the values of compassion, unity, and care for one another.

## Decommissioning of LES (Lancashire and South Cumbria only)

This is a reminder that as part of the ICBs review of LIS/LES arrangements across Lancashire and South Cumbria, the ICB have taken the decision to decommission a number of existing LES that are inconsistently commissioned across the patch.

As per the dates provided on each of the letters to clarify the decommissioning, we would advise that all practices cease to do the work associated with these as you will no longer be being paid for this. This is in line with our guidance on no longer conceding unfunded work.

In addition to this we have learned that EMS+ is no longer part of the funding arrangement for 2025/26 and as such practices will no longer be required to make use of this or any other reporting system proposed by the ICB. We would, however, continue to encourage practices to engage with the LMC's GPAS enquiries - this confidential data collection enables us to evidence to system partners the pressures within General Practice across the patch.

The LMC are doing further work on supporting practices with the decommissioning of the LES as we understand this will have implications on cash flow, staffing and other organisational challenges. Unfortunately, the ICB have not provided sufficient engagement or notice for these services, as such we are engaging with the ICB on what mitigations they will provide to these lost services and importantly getting clarity on where patients will be directed for services no longer provided in General Practice. We will also be highlighting that it is essential they take responsibility for informing the public about these changes to service provision to prevent GPs from being unfairly blamed for decisions that are entirely out of their control.

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### **LES 25/26 - North Cumbria Only**

The LMC recently sent a letter to practices outlining our serious concerns regarding the Non-Meds LES and the broader lack of commissioned services for primary care in North Cumbria. We made it clear that the current offer does not adequately fund the work being asked of practices, and we strongly advised against signing up until the offer improves significantly.

In addition, we have formally written to the ICB to object to the inadequate funding of the Non-Meds LES and to highlight the absence of a commissioned Medicines LES with clear funding specifications. Despite raising these urgent concerns, we have yet to receive a response from the ICB.

We will continue to push for fair funding and will keep practices updated on any developments. If you have any questions or require further support, please get in touch with [Mikaela](#).

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### **Closure of the Lancashire and South Cumbria Medicines Management Group (LSCMMG) website**

Please find further information [here](#) regarding the change.

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### **TB in Primary Care Research**

Imperial College London's Department of Primary Care and Public Health is conducting a research study on TB in primary care. The study aims to identify

challenges in the diagnosis of active pulmonary Tuberculosis (TB) in primary care settings and inform future policy.

They are looking for clinicians working in primary care in England to fill in a brief, anonymous online survey on their experiences with diagnosing TB, particularly around any barriers or challenges faced. Please consider participating in this brief online questionnaire, which should take no more than 10 minutes to complete

You can complete the questionnaire [here](#).

For any further information or questions please contact: [jyg17@ic.ac.uk](mailto:jyg17@ic.ac.uk)

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### **General Practice Appointment Infographics - February 2025**

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.

Some example infographics can be seen below. Feel free to pick and choose the images that are suitable for your practices needs [on our website](#).

If you would like the images in a different format [please get in touch](#).



## Lancashire & South Cumbria GP Appointments

Data published March 2025 by NHS Digital

**821,000**

GP SURGERY APPOINTMENTS WERE OFFERED IN FEBRUARY

**564,000**

69% OF ALL PATIENTS WERE SEEN FACE TO FACE

**407,000**

50% WERE SEEN WITHIN 24 HOURS OF CONTACTING THEIR PRACTICE



- ✓ Our Receptionists and Care Navigators are here to help! Please be as specific as possible when discussing your needs. **You may not always need to see a GP.**
- ✓ Patients will be offered appointments with the **right clinician at the right place and within the right timeframe** - based on **clinical urgency and need.**
- ✓ Our Practice teams are here to help, not be hurt. **Aggressive, violent or threatening behaviour towards our staff will not be tolerated #BeKind**
- ✓ **Practice self-care prior to contacting NHS services for your minor illness.**
- ✓ GPs have no control over hospital waiting lists or follow up appointments.
- ✓ Tests ordered by the hospital will be followed up by the hospital.
- ✓ We are working as hard as we can to **meet your needs.**
- ✓ We are grateful for your patience and support.



## North Cumbria GP Appointments

Data published March 2025 by NHS Digital

**195,000**

GP APPOINTMENTS WERE OFFERED IN FEBRUARY

**108,000**

55% OF ALL PATIENTS WERE SEEN FACE TO FACE

**100,000**

51% WERE SEEN WITHIN 24 HOURS OF CONTACTING THEIR PRACTICE



- ✓ Our Receptionists and Care Navigators are here to help! Please be as specific as possible when discussing your needs. **You may not always need to see a GP.**
- ✓ Patients will be offered appointments with the **right clinician at the right place and within the right timeframe** - based on **clinical urgency and need.**
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## LMC Training Events 2025

Please see a list of upcoming training events being hosted by the LMC:

- [Complaints Training](#)
- [Conflict Management](#)
- [CQC Update](#)

To book your place or find out more information, please contact [Rebecca.Noblett@nwlmc.org](mailto:Rebecca.Noblett@nwlmc.org) or view [here](#).

## Help Us Grow Our Audience

We understand that you are busy and are likely to receive many emails on a daily basis. However it is important for you to receive communications from us because **we can help and support you.**

We know there are many colleagues who do not receive our brieflet, so please help us by sharing this with your team and letting us know to add them to our distribution lists.

Contact Us

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