



# Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021

## Delayed roll-out of patient data sharing programme (GDPR)

Last Friday 4 June, the BMA issued a [press release](#) calling on NHS Digital and the Government to delay the introduction of its new data extraction programme until patients and the public have had time to be aware of and understand it and are better able to choose to opt-out if they wish.

Health Minister Jo Churchill MP has today advised the House of Commons, in response to an oral question from Robert Langan, Conservative MP for High Peak, that the GDPR programme implementation date has been moved back to 1 September 2021 to allow “more time to talk to patients, Drs, and other stakeholders”.

The LMC will keep an eye on this developing situation.

## New PSCE GP pay and pensions portal

Ahead of the 1 June launch of the new GP pay and pensions system, many GPs received automated emails from PCSE informing them that they had been given full access to the system. The emails gave access rights based on the recipient being a GP principal, a salaried GP, a locum and a portfolio GP. Unsurprisingly this created a lot of unnecessary confusion.

PCSE later sent an email to those recipients explaining that the allocation to all roles was to ensure that GPs can access all aspects of the new service, including historic pensions data. They added that the receipt of these emails did not mean that their status on the performers list had been changed.

Whilst the clarification was helpful, BMA GPC have stated that they were not informed of PCSE’s plan to send these emails. It has also become apparent that there are many GPs who have not yet received these emails. PCSE has told BMA GPC that these GPs will receive a single email, in place of the four, by the end of this week.

GPs and practices should log on and confirm they have access to the system. The new system should give access to data that many GPs have not seen before. Navigating the system and becoming familiar with terminology is a challenge and some areas of the portal will only be relevant to certain types of GP.

[Read the user guides and other resources for the new system here.](#)

BMA GPC expect there to be data gaps and PCSE say it has additional resources to meet the anticipated demand. Any issues should be [raised with PCSE](#). Your pension data must be correct and complete, so do log on and check. The BMA will be monitoring both the pension and practice payment aspects very closely.





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## COVID-19 guidance on support for retired members

NHSPSA Guidance exists for retired members with regards to temporary suspension of;

- The 16-hour rule
- Abatement for special class status holders in the 1995 Section
- Draw down abatement in the 2008 Section and 2015 Scheme

More information can be found [here](#).

## Deadline approaching for EU settlement scheme

The deadline of 30 June for applications to be made to the EUSS (EU settlement scheme) is rapidly approaching. If you are a doctor currently in the UK and arrived before 31 December 2020, you must apply before that date. It is free of charge, and by applying and being granted pre-settled or settled status, you will secure your rights to continue living and working in the UK. In addition, an application must be made for every eligible child within your family. If you and your family members have lived in the UK for many years, have a permanent residence document or EEA biometric residence card, you still need to apply to the EUSS (or apply for British citizenship) by 30 June to secure your existing rights in the UK.

[Check your immigration status here](#).

[Apply now](#)

## GP Partners and Practice Managers sought for research on Locum GPs

Manchester University, funded by the Institute for Health Policy and Organisation, is conducting research exploring how temporary or locum doctors work in the NHS, what they do, how their work is organised, and what effects that might have on the quality and safety of healthcare for patients. They aim to find ways to improve the working arrangements for locum doctors.

[Find out more information, including how to take part](#)

## Spirometry

NHS England have suggested that spirometry services should be restored. [This guidance document](#) comprises information from the Association for Respiratory Technology and Physiology (ARTP) and the Primary Care Respiratory Society (PCRS). It was developed from a task and finish group established by NHS England's Clinical Policy.

The BMA's guidance for [spirometry in general practice](#) remains unchanged. This important diagnostic and monitoring tool should be properly commissioned, and sufficient capacity should be made available for practices to be able to access this for their patients.





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The LMC will be engaging with local commissioners regarding arrangements across Lancashire and Cumbria.

## **GP trainees committee regional elections 2021**

Nominations for the BMA's GP trainees committee in Lancashire reopened from 12pm, Wednesday 2 June and will remain open until 12pm, 16 June. Seats in Lancashire are a by-election and are for a one-session term only, 2021-22.

[Submit your nomination via the BMA's election system.](#)

[Find out more about the GP trainees committee.](#)

You need a [BMA web account](#) to take part in these elections. If you have any queries regarding the election process, contact [elections@bma.org.uk](mailto:elections@bma.org.uk)

