



# Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August

## Message from your LMC CEO, Dr Adam Janjua

Dear colleagues,

I have now finished my first full month as CEO of the Consortium of LMCs. As I reflect on the past five weeks in my new work environment, I am heartened by the impact that I have personally seen the LMC has had on the working lives of our member GPs. The team is working hard every day to ensure that GPs have a voice in the NHS and that every GP/Practice manager that contacts us can get the support that they need – whether this is in the form of HR advice and guidance; support with a potential dispute; premises issues; contract queries; financial issues – the list is endless!

One of my main priorities as the CEO is to try and foster a culture of approachability and support, both internally and externally. For *our* LMC to be successful we need the profession to feel that we are the first port of call for support and professional advice. Practices and our member GPs need to feel engaged and part of the team. We will be working hard to ensure that we make this as easy as possible for you, BUT I would also like to request that you engage with us. To this effect I would like to start by asking that you read the LMC Brieflet's and Newsletters on a regular basis so that you are up to date with all the excellent work that is going on. The Brieflet also contains information on what support we can offer you. I would also like to further request that you promote and encourage colleagues to read the Brieflet too.

Following a query raised by the LMC to the ICB (L&SC) regarding the interpretation of letters through the Language Line service, the ICB have now extended their contract to include free of charge translation of letters for all practices. Hopefully this will help cut expenditure for practices and improve patient communication and care. We will provide you with more information on this next week.

Lastly, I'd like to ask that you consider utilising our Partnership Agreement Drafting Service. As you are all undoubtedly aware, a GP partnership agreement is the most important document in any partnership. A properly drafted partnership agreement will help reduce the risk of disputes and conflicts both now and in the future. This service is provided at an extremely reasonable rate. If you are interested in having an agreement drafted or if you have any questions about our bespoke agreements and what we can offer for you then please contact [Abigail Askew](#) or call 01772 863806. You can also see the other services we provide on our LMC flyer [here](#).

## LMC Partnership Agreement Drafting Service Survey

Have you used our Partnership Agreement Drafting Service?

If so, to help us improve our service we would be grateful if you could please complete the following survey, which should take no longer than 5 minutes - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TY9PDCH>

## GPC England officer team election results

Dr Katie Bramall-Stainer has been elected as the new chair of the BMA's England GP Committee (GPC England). Members of the committee voted for the new chair last week, as well as three deputies: Dr David Wrigley, Dr Julius Parker, and Dr Samira Anane. We congratulate Dr David Wrigley for his re – election for BMA deputy chair who is also our Morecambe Bay LMC Vice Chair. The full press statement is available [here](#).





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## Veterans UK - Requests for primary healthcare medical reports

The LMC has been made aware of requests to practices in relation to patients entitled to military no fault compensation. The forms ask for “an appropriate member of the primary care clinical team” to complete factual reports based on patient records and clarifies there is no requirement for examination. The feedback we have received is that the fee offered is often not commensurate with the recourse implications of this work for practices.

Given the immense pressure that practices are working under, we know that contractual obligations are taking priority and that non-contractual requests should be appropriately resourced if you are to take these on. If practices are in receipt of such requests, do calculate your costs and request appropriate remuneration for the work involved.

You may find the following advice and support on fee setting from the BMA useful:

- [Dealing with fees for non-NHS report requests \(bma.org.uk\)](https://www.bma.org.uk/press-releases/2023/04/2023-04-20-dealing-with-fees-for-non-nhs-report-requests)
- [What to consider when setting your own fees \(bma.org.uk\)](https://www.bma.org.uk/press-releases/2023/04/2023-04-20-what-to-consider-when-setting-your-own-fees)
- [BMA fees calculator](#)

We have written to Veterans UK to query their fee setting and their processes for acquiring the information needed about this patient group and flagged this issue to BMA GPC colleagues nationally.

## Survey (L&SC only) - GPs with Specialist Interests (GPwSI)

Lancashire and South Cumbria Primary Care Training Hub have designed a survey on GPs with Specialist Interests (GPwSIs). It is open to all GPs, whether you hold (or have previously held) a GPwSI role or not and will help build a picture of GPs with Specialist Interests (GPwSI) across the patch.

The survey results could offer some understanding of what education and training opportunities are available within practices/PCNs and inform the landscape for current and future GPwSI provision. The survey will only take a couple of minutes to complete and is available online [here](#).

## Removal of the panic button in EMIS Web

As you know, EMIS confirmed that the panic button will continue to be available for practices who wish to keep it.

Please see [this article published by EMIS](#) and note the deadline of Friday 15 September 2023 should you wish to keep this functionality. Also please note if you allow this functionality to lapse EMIS will not reactivate it for your practice at a later date.

EMIS will be removing the Panic Button as standard from EMIS Web on Friday 29 September 2023. From this date, the Panic Button icon and functionality will be removed unless they receive specific instruction.

## Physical activity promotion within primary care survey

A Ph.D. student at Sheffield Hallam University is carrying out research exploring the implementation of physical activity promotion within primary care and general practitioners. The survey should take approx. 5 minutes to complete: [https://shusls.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_ah2kfEmqREI7siy](https://shusls.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ah2kfEmqREI7siy)

