



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 10th September

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!](#) 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.

General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

You can see the latest SitRep results below. Results can also be found on our website.

You can see the national GPAS SITREP here.

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

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

Please let us know if you are a Practice Manager and do not receive the GPAS input emails.

BMA GP Safe Working Guidance Handbook

Following the overwhelming YES vote in the BMA ballot over the summer, practices are starting to take action as part of the BMA 'Protect your Patients and Protect your Practice' campaign.

GPC England have published a 'Safe working guidance' handbook to help GPs and practices in the delivery of safe, high-quality care for their patients and communities. The profession wants to provide care without risking harm to others or ourselves.

At a time of unprecedented pressures, we must make changes to our workload to preserve patient care in the face of a shrinking workforce and rising demand. This will help to protect the sustainability and future of General Practice.

BMA recommends you do this by focusing on the delivery of General Medical Services, in line with the needs of your patients and practice, and deprioritising work and activities that fall outside of your core contractual requirements. This guidance reflects the contractual changes imposed by NHS England in April 2024. The BMA offer ways of doing this that still enable you to stay within the terms of your GMS/PMS.

The guidance outlines how to manage workload effectively, setting safe limits of 25 patient consultations per day in line with UEMO recommendations, and encouraging practices to adopt systems that protect both patients and staff.

The BMA handbook can be downloaded and saved from the website: www.bma.org.uk/GPSafeWorking.



Manage workload to protect your patients and protect your practice.

Children's Oral Health Treatment and Prevention Pathway - Lancashire & South Cumbria only

The document here shows a new pathway of care for children aged 0-5 to access dental services, which is being launched across Lancs & South Cumbria through September. The referral into this pathway can be by any health or social care professional involved in the care of children with no access to NHS dentistry.

Transfer of Information - Flu jabs

We have recently had queries about the 5th collective action recommendation regarding the switching off of GP Connect, in relation to the transfer of information when patients receive their flu jabs from pharmacies rather than practices.

We have sought the BMA GPC's guidance and can confirm that the immunisation information coming from pharmacies to the GP record comes through a different route than GP Connect so this will not be affected by the recent action of GPs to turn off the 'Update Record' functionality.

Practice Finance Survey – DEADLINE MIDDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

The BMA are inviting practices in England to complete our Practice Finance survey, to build evidence for them to support the annual contract negotiations. This is your opportunity to feed into an evidence base demonstrating the impact of inflation and rising cost over the last couple of years, on GP practices.

Please share the survey link with your practice manager so that they can complete the survey. The survey will close at 9am, Tuesday 17 September.

GPCE view on request for Cloud Based Telephony data

As part of the 2024/25 contract imposed on the profession in April, NHS England (NHSE) have sought directions from the Secretary of State to extract data from our clinical systems on our Cloud Based Telephony (CBT) usage. An email has been sent by NHSE outlining the instructions to comply with this data extraction under section 259 (1) (a) of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, stating:

'All General Practices are therefore mandated to comply with this invitation and approve the collection.'

The legal basis for the collection is explained in the Data Provision Notice, which will enable your call data to be extracted on a monthly basis.

The BMA has taken its own legal advice: Practices cannot decline the instructions, as doing so will risk breaching their contract.

GPC have made it clear to NHSE that the data must not be used to performance manage practices or single them out for criticism.

The PCN DES includes three components of the Capacity and Access Improvement Payment (CAIP). This data extraction is the component pertaining to the existing use of CBT and the relevant metrics. GPCE advice is that should a practice fail to sign up ahead of the October 1st deadline, there may be a risk of a breach notice being imposed as well as contravening the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

There is another component which relates to ask No 9 in the collective action campaign. GPC have significant concerns around online consultation software being available to patients from 08:00-18:30 given practices' lack of capacity, and their responsibilities for ensuing patient safety.

GPCE advice continues to apply here: CDs and PCNs are advised not to sign this particular declaration presently, but to await further guidance closer to the financial year end.

Rollout of the medical examiner system in England

In England, the statutory implementation of the medical examiner system has taken place on 9 September 2024. This will mean that independent scrutiny by a medical examiner will become a statutory requirement prior to the registration of all non-coronial deaths from this date. Information from the Department of Health and Social Care is [here](#).

LMC Soapboxes

The LMC hosts regular 1 hour drop-in sessions via Microsoft Teams for all Practice Managers and GPs across Lancashire & Cumbria.

The soapbox is an opportunity for you to raise anything with your LMC, meet your representatives, hear about the services we can provide but most importantly, we would like to hear from you and how we can support you!

You are welcome to dip in and out -There is no requirement to stay the full hour and you are welcome to just listen. You will receive posters via email with details of how to join the Soapbox for your area. Upcoming Soapbox's:

- Lancashire Coastal - October - TBC
- Cumbria - Tuesday 17th September - 12:30 - 1:30pm
- Pennine Lancashire - 17th September 1pm - 2pm
- Central Lancashire - TBC
- Morecambe Bay - TBC

LMC Vacancies

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

- North Cumbria - 3 seats available
- Central Lancashire - 3 seats available
- Morecambe Bay - 1 seat 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.