



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 14th July 2026

Collective Action for practices in July – Refusing new requests for Shared Care

Please see our recent Newsflash regarding [GP COLLECTIVE ACTION: SHARED CARE - JULY 2026](#).

Advice specific to North Cumbria and the Medicines LES will be circulated.

The BMA is asking practices to [refuse all new requests for shared care](#) where arrangements are not appropriately resourced, clinically safe, or supported by clear formal agreements. Practices are also encouraged to review existing shared care arrangements to ensure responsibilities, prescribing, monitoring and recall processes remain robust.

Taking part in this collective action is lawful.

This month's action: The BMA is encouraging practices to [write to their local MP](#) ahead of the summer parliamentary recess using its online letter-writing tool. Practices will also shortly receive campaign [posters](#) encouraging patients to support the BMA's [open letter](#) calling for increased investment in general practice.

Resources:

[Action on Shared Care Responsibilities for new patients in General Practice](#)

[Template Practice Letter to MPs about the Future of General Practice](#)

[Patient Resources and Practice Campaign Materials](#)

[Principles for Shared Care Prescribing](#)

Individual Funding Requests (IFRs) (Lancs & South Cumbria)

Practices may find it helpful to refer to the ICB's guidance on [Individual Funding Requests \(IFRs\)](#) when queries arise about who should submit an application.

The guidance states:

"Funding applications can be made in either Primary or Secondary Care. Applications for funding should ideally be made by the clinician who has the most knowledge of the condition and intervention that the request relates to."

This means that, while IFRs can be submitted from either primary or secondary care, the application should normally be completed by the clinician who is best placed to provide the necessary clinical information. In many cases, this will be the secondary care clinician.

Practices may wish to share this guidance with secondary care colleagues where appropriate.

[You can view the full ICB guidance on Individual Funding Requests via the link.](#)





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Expression of Interest – GP Clinical Advisor

Expressions of Interest are invited from practising GPs across Lancashire and South Cumbria for the role of GP Clinical Advisor to the Elective Single Point of Access (SPoA), Clinical Triage and Referral Optimisation Programme.

The role will provide primary care clinical input into pathway development, referral optimisation and implementation, helping to ensure proposed changes are practical and workable for general practice.

The role is fixed-term from August 2026 to April 2027, with an expected commitment of approximately 1.5 sessions per month. Funding is available to support backfill arrangements.

Expressions of Interest should be submitted to ElectiveRecovery@LTHTR.nhs.uk by 31 July 2026.

[Click here to find more information.](#)

FIT Testing – Fylde Coast Only

Following our [correspondence in March](#) regarding the use of Faecal Immunochemical Tests (FIT) in primary care, the LMC has received a number of queries from practices following changes to laboratory processing arrangements.

We understand that where clinicians consider two FIT samples to be clinically appropriate, the laboratory is now rejecting samples that are submitted together on a single request. Where a second FIT is requested, each sample should therefore be submitted as a separate laboratory request to enable both tests to be processed.

To reiterate the LMC position outlined in our previous communication, the decision to request one or two FIT tests remains a matter of individual clinical judgement. GPs should continue to exercise their professional discretion based on the patient's presentation and clinical circumstances. The LMC continues to support colleagues who determine that a second FIT is clinically justified, just as we support those who are content to follow the single FIT pathway.

Practices are encouraged to ensure that, where two FIT tests are requested, each is accompanied by its own separate laboratory request in line with the current pathology process.

FP69 - Patient Facing Materials

Following our recent FP69 survey, we've created a patient information poster to help explain why patients may be contacted to confirm their GP registration and encourage them to respond promptly.

The poster can be displayed in waiting rooms, reception areas or on your practice website to help reduce confusion and unnecessary enquiries.

The poster is available to download [here](#).

Please also read and share the [FP69 Counting the Cost Finance Impact Report](#) which highlights the impact of FP69 deductions on general practice and the need for greater transparency and safeguards.





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UK LMC Conference News

Please see [attached Conference news](#) which provides details of the conference resolutions, election results and motions not debated at May's UK LMC Conference in Belfast.

Let's talk ovarian cancer - free webinar for primary care professionals in Lancashire and South Cumbria

In partnership with [GatewayC](#), Lancs and South Cumbria Cancer Alliance are hosting a free webinar and Q&A session with ovarian cancer expert Dr Nick Wood, gynaecological oncologist at Royal Preston Hospital, alongside GatewayC GP Lead, Dr Sarah Taylor.

This free learning session is the final of four webinars in our series with GatewayC – the leading earlier cancer diagnosis resource. Each session has been hosted by experienced GPs and secondary care specialists discussing prostate, lung, liver, and ovarian cancer. All webinars are now available to watch on demand.

[Explore the full series.](#)

The live ovarian cancer webinar on Tuesday 21 July 2026, 12:30 – 13:15, will provide guidance on:

- Identifying ovarian cancer risk
- Symptom patterns that should prompt suspicion
- Current NICE NG12 guidelines
- Differentiating ovarian cancer from common benign conditions such as IBS

This webinar is designed for primary care professionals in Lancashire and South Cumbria. Live Q&A available.

Can't make it? Register to watch on demand after the event has finished.

[Secure your free place now](#)

