



# Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## Collective Action against new GP Contract

As of 1 May, the [British Medical Association GP Committee for England](#) is encouraging practices to [take part in collective action](#) due to concerns over the imposed 2026/27 GP contract and increasing workload pressures.

For May, practices are being asked to focus on GP patient data sharing agreements (DSAs) by [sending a template letter](#) to the ICB, [reviewing existing DSAs](#), and referring any new requests to the BMA ([gpcontract@bma.org.uk](mailto:gpcontract@bma.org.uk)). The action aims to improve transparency around how GP patient data is used, ensure appropriate governance is in place, and highlight the reliance of the wider NHS on GP-held data.

The BMA states the action is lawful, contract-compliant, and designed as an initial step to increase pressure on Government negotiations over the GP contract. Practices are also encouraged to discuss the issue within their PCNs and patient participation groups.

The BMA have also prepared the following resources to help practices become more informed and to increase understanding in why all practices need to take part in this collective action:

- [Focus on GP data control](#)
- [PC ITs screenshot guide for reviewing DSAs within your GP system](#)
- [The Government's plan for the Single Care Record \(SCR\) – a briefing note for GPs](#)
- [Why GP collective action is focusing on data transparency](#)
- [FAQs: GPC England Collective Action letter Regarding DSAs](#)

Access all resources on [How to take part in GP collective action in England](#)

## Consultant to Consultant Referrals - Quick Guide

The below guide has been developed to support consistent management of consultant-to-consultant referrals across the system. It provides clarity on when referrals should be made directly between specialist teams and when patients should instead be advised to contact their GP practice.

Practices may wish to familiarise themselves with the guidance and share it with colleagues and local secondary care contacts where appropriate.

[Download the Lancashire & South Cumbria guide](#)

[Download the North Cumbria guide](#)





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### CQRS/QOF MMRV Vaccination Figures

Practices may wish to review their CQRS/QOF vaccination figures following reports that the new MMRV vaccine, introduced from 1 January 2026, may not have been correctly recognised within GPES/CQRS extracts in some cases.

[This guidance](#) published by CSU Collaborative suggests the issue may not necessarily be isolated. Please liaise with the ICB if you believe you are impacted:

- Lancs and South Cumbria ICB: [lscicb-bl.medical@nhs.net](mailto:lscicb-bl.medical@nhs.net)
- North East and North Cumbria ICB: [nencicb-cu.primarycare@nhs.net](mailto:nencicb-cu.primarycare@nhs.net)

Although the financial impact for individual practices may be relatively small, the principle of accurate reporting and reimbursement remains important. We would therefore encourage all to review their MMRV vaccination activity from 1 January 2026 onwards and whether reported figures align with their clinical system records.

### Order Comms project - Keystone replacement (Morecambe Bay)

Over recent months the LMC has been engaged by system partners in steering group discussions about the order comms arrangements across Lancashire and South Cumbria. We have consistently sought reassurance that future order comms functionality should not introduce any clinical risk or additional workload and at least match what is there currently.

Initially there has been lots of focus on the Morecambe Bay patch where it has been deemed necessary to replace Keystone. Our understanding was that the system to be introduced to replace Keystone was put through a testing phase which included practice feedback. We now know that there have been issues resulting in the replacement system being rolled back. We encourage any practices that have been impacted to log this via the IT Service Desk as this will enable the issues to be quantified and addressed.

### NHSE webinar series: Early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer – recognising red flags with confidence

NHSE is hosting a free [GatewayC](#) live webinar on early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer on **Wednesday 10 June, 12:30–1:15pm**.

The session will cover recognising vague symptom patterns, useful primary care investigations, the importance of family history, and referral pathways for suspected pancreatic cancer. The webinar will be led by Dr Andrew Millar, Consultant Gastroenterologist and Hepatologist, followed by a live Q&A.

Designed for GPs and primary care professionals, the session will also be available on demand after the event. [Register to secure your place.](#)





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### LMC Survey - GP Experience of NWAS Clinical Decision-Making and Communication

The LMC has received increasing feedback from practices regarding interactions with NWAS, particularly around:

- Decisions not to convey patients to hospital despite GP concerns
- Patients being redirect back to general practice following ambulance assessment
- Paramedics calling the practice for clinical advice despite this not being a commissioned service in most places
- Lack of communication or clinical feedback to practices following NWAS attendance
- Concerns regarding continuity of care, workload transfer, and medicolegal responsibility

We are therefore seeking feedback from practices to better understand the scale and nature of these issues and to determine whether practices would support formal LMC discussions with NWAS and the ICB regarding communication standards and escalation pathways.

**Please complete this short survey based on your practice's experience over the past 6–12 months.**

Select your LMC area:

- Central Lancashire - [click here](#)
- Lancashire Pennine - [click here](#)
- Lancashire Coastal - [click here](#)
- Morecambe Bay - [click here](#)
- North Cumbria - [click here](#)

### LMC Vacancies

Three of our five Committees currently have seats available for GP representation:

- Lancashire Coastal LMC: several vacancies available
- Central Lancashire LMC: 2 vacancies available (1 for Greater Preston & 1 for Chorley & South Ribble)
- Lancashire Pennine LMC: 1 vacancy available (Rossendale)

Please let us know if you are interested in being a LMC member or would [like to find out more](#).

[You can find your LMC representatives on our website here.](#)

