



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 20th August

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!](#)

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 receive from you helps us gather a true picture of the pressures practices are under in Lancashire and Cumbria and provides us with evidence when liaising with system partners.

When completing the GPAS form please ensure that you are inputting the correct numbers to avoid incorrect data and please do continue to keep us updated on a weekly basis.

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.

LMC Celebratory Ball

Less than 7 weeks to go!

Do you agree that it's about time General Practice was celebrated? The LMC does!

Tickets are priced at £50 per person which includes live music, saxophonist, a full three course meal and an awards ceremony! The ball will be taking place on Saturday 5th October at Ribby Hall, Wrea Green from 6:30pm!

The award nomination categories are:

- Outstanding Patient Interaction - Non Clinical team
- Outstanding Contribution
- Compassionate Care
- Rising Star
- Rising Star - GP Trainee
- Demonstration of Great Leadership

If you would like to celebrate with us please contact enquires@nwlmc.org, but hurry, less 7 weeks to go!

Please feel free to invite your partners or a plus one for an evening of celebration!

Please note tickets will need to be purchased before Thursday 22nd August!



Important Reminder – Abnormal Test Results

The LMC would like to reiterate the process that should be in place for managing the results of any blood tests organised by Hospital Trusts. There has been a lot of frustration caused by abnormal blood test results being phoned through to GP Practices when these were tests requested by Hospital teams. It is expected that these test results should be actioned directly by the Hospital team or go through the internal escalation processes that each Hospital should have in place to deal with abnormal test requests results – even if this is Out of Hours.

There should not need to be any involvement of the GP Practice in dealing with any such results. Similarly Trusts should not be passing on any internally requested results of abnormal tests to the Out of Hours Doctor at 6:30pm.

The LMC would encourage practices to agree a formal policy whereby:

- Abnormal test carried out or requested by General Practice are passed to the Practice in core hours to process.
- Abnormal test results carried out or requested by General Practice received out of hours should be passed to the Out of Hours GP to process (directly via Path Lab).
- Tests requested by Hospital/Consultant/Specialists should be dealt with internally within the Hospital, even if these require flagging up to the on call Hospital team.
- Abnormal tests requested by Hospital/Consultants/Specialists should be processed by the on call team if the regular team is not available.
- The Path Lab should only call General Practice to hand over results if they are the responsibility of the GP (requested by the Practice).
- GP Practices should encourage their reception staff to not take ownership of results (when phoned through) that have not been requested by the core General Practice team.

Please contact your area Executive Lead at the LMC if you have any queries about this process.

Virtual Lucy (Let Us Connect You)

The LMC have recently been made aware that some Trusts are using the 'Virtual Lucy' software that diagnoses and suggests treatment for patients. Referrals being forwarded to this virtual system are resulting in consultants asking GPs to request many tests, interpret the results and refer onwards on the Trusts behalf.

This is a reminder that any tests required following referral are the responsibility of the Trust and not General Practice. Once the GP referral has been submitted it is then the Trusts responsibility to organise tests and interpretation from there. If you have any concerns relating to this matter please get in touch.

GP Local Action Tracker Survey - 19-25 Aug

The local action tracker survey for Monday, 19th to Sunday, 25th August can be found here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMA_GP_Action_Tracking_19-25Aug

Please ensure that only one staff member per practice responds to the survey on behalf of the practice by 5pm on Sunday, 25th August.

The data collected will then be used to monitor the participation with the different types of action across the country, and as a lobbying tool to demonstrate the level of participation in collective action.

Please be assured, that no identifiable data will be created as a result of this survey.

Academy Matters - MLCSU IT Training Newsletter - August 2024

Please see the most recent MLCSU IT training newsletter: August 2024 - MLCSU Academy (midlandsandlancashirecsu.nhs.uk)

LMC Training Events

Please see a list of upcoming training events being hosted by the LMC:

- Recruitment & Selection
- Complaints Training
- Managing Poor Employee Performance
- CQC Update
- Change Management
- Conflict Management
- Sickness Management

To book your place or find out more information, please contact Rebecca.Noblett@nwlmc.org

A Reminder about LMC Buying Group Membership

Are you making the most of your Buying Group membership?

When was the last time you reviewed how much your practice is spending on the products and services you regularly buy?

The cost of living crisis continues to bite and even GP practices will be looking for ways to reduce running costs.

This is where your free membership to the LMC Buying Group can really come in handy as it offers practices access to discounts on a wide range of products and services. They can help you save money on the following areas:

- Medical consumables and equipment
- Stationery, Office equipment and furniture
- Work wear
- Insurance
- Confidential information shredding
- Energy
- Recovery Oxygen
- Telecoms

- Test and Calibration
- Online Training
- DBS Checks Processing

The Buying Group suppliers won't just offer you a great price one week and then ramp up the price the next so you can be assured that if you order from their suppliers, you'll get a great price every time you shop meaning you don't have to 'shop around' to find the best deal every month anymore.

If you're not sure whether you're a member and/or have access to the Buying Group website (this is where you can view the pricing/discounts and get quotes) then contact the Buying Group team on 0115 979 6910 or info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk. They can also help you with any questions you might have about your membership or the suppliers.

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.