



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 25th August 2026

Referral management transfer: protecting safe capacity (Central Lancashire & Fylde Coast only)

From 14 September 2026, LSC ICB intends to transfer referral booking and worklist management functions currently undertaken by the Referral Management Centre at MLCSU to GP practices in Central Lancashire and Fylde Coast.

The LMC has significant concerns about the additional workload this will create. Even using an estimated 10 minutes per referral, the transfer could amount to around 415 staff hours per week – more than 11 WTE posts across the affected areas, with practice feedback suggesting the true impact may be greater.

The attached guidance sets out how practices can protect safe capacity, including applying BMA safe-working principles and reviewing uncommissioned or unfunded work that may appropriately be declined or returned to other providers. [Please see the attached LMC guidance for full details and practical advice.](#)

Collective Action – Raising Patient Awareness

Practices will have received a package of [posters](#) as part of [BMA GPC England's August collective action](#). Practices are encouraged to display these prominently, with multilingual leaflets, reception screen videos and digital graphics also available via the [BMA campaign resources](#).

BMA GPC England is also asking GPs and patients to [sign the public petition](#) supporting general practice and encouraging practices to [write to their MP using the BMA's online tool](#) about the pressures they are facing.

Collective action is continuing, with BMA GPC England exploring options for further escalation in the coming months. The current actions are lawful and do not breach the GP contract. Read more about taking collective action and [access BMA resources on taking part in collective action](#).

GP Payments Service – opportunity to provide feedback

As part of a discovery exercise commissioned by NHS England, NECS is seeking feedback on the current GP Payments service to understand how it is working and identify areas where improvements may be needed.

NECS would like to hear from colleagues with experience of using or working with the service. Feedback will help identify current challenges, as well as local processes, business rules and workarounds that may need to be considered.

There are two ways to contribute:

- Complete the [Microsoft Form](#) by Wednesday 9 September 2026.
- Attend an informal Microsoft Teams drop-in session:
 - **Tuesday 1 September, 12:00–13:00** – [Join the session](#)
 - **Monday 7 September, 16:00–17:00** – [Join the session](#)

There is no need to book for the drop-in sessions, and attendees can join for as much or as little of the session as needed.





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Sanofi Flu Vaccination Cancellations

BMA GPC are aware that some practices have received communications from Sanofi cancelling their flu vaccine orders, due to a manufacturing error. They are liaising with NHS England who are working with suppliers to ensure that sufficient stock will be available.

Help shape how health data is used across the NHS

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has commissioned an independent national engagement programme to hear from GPs and practice managers about how patient data should be used across the NHS.

Delivered by Ipsos and Kaleidoscope Health and Care, the programme covers patient care and the Single Patient Record, planning and population health management, and health research. Feedback will help inform future national policy and legislation.

GPs at all career stages and practice managers/senior staff are encouraged to take part. The programme runs until October 2026, with options ranging from a 10-minute survey to briefings and in-depth workshops.

[Take the 10-minute survey](#)

[Find out more about the programme](#)

HSSIB report into the use of A&G (advice and guidance)

[The HSSIB \(Health Services Safety Investigations Body\) has published an interim report on its investigation into the use of A&G](#) services in the NHS in England, and the impact on patient safety.

Whilst the investigation heard support for A&G services where they are working well, it also found evidence that poorly designed or inadequately monitored pathways have contributed to physical harm, delayed and missed diagnoses, and in some cases to delays in cancer care.

Since the imposition of the 2026 contract that further embedded the use of A&G in general practice, GPC England has repeatedly raised issues with its implementation, and this report vindicates those concerns, now showing that patients have come to harm as a result of a rushed-out and inconsistently applied process.

What's new at GatewayC (Lancs & South Cumbria)

- How Archie Goodburn's campaign is raising awareness of brain tumour symptoms in primary care. [Read now.](#)
- Cancer and diet: Key learning from GPs Talk Cancer. [Read now.](#)
- Bonus podcast episode: Women with UTIs and possible bladder cancer. [Listen now.](#)
- Course of the month: Myeloma. [Start now.](#)

NHSE webinar series: supporting lung cancer screening, smoking cessation and earlier diagnosis in primary care. [Register now.](#)





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FP69 - Patient Facing Materials

We continue to raise practice concerns about the impact of list validation exercises nationally, and encourage practices to [continue sharing feedback](#) on this with the LMC.

Practices are reporting to us that patients are contacting them with queries about this process, worried about the security of their medical records etc. To support, we have drafted [a template letter](#) that can be amended for practice use but hopefully will help to standardise responses. Formal complaints about patient removals may require additional investigation/detail.

Practices can also use the [this poster](#) to display to patients. Please [share the materials](#) to raise patient awareness.

We will continue to share any further developments and updates as they arise.

LMC Vacancies - Help shape the future of General Practice

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

- Lancashire Coastal LMC: several vacancies available
- Central Lancashire LMC: 1 vacancy available (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.](#)

