



## Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

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Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

### General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

Due to the recent festive period a report has not been published however you can find previous Sitreps [on our website](#). This week's GPAS is now open for your input, the link has been sent.

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.

Please let us know if you have any questions/ issues

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### LMC HR Advisory Service – Offer to PCNs

During the summer the LMC HR Team undertook a survey of PCNs to determine the level of interest in joining and utilising the LMCs HR Advisory Service.

A number of you replied to say that you would be interested in doing so and we have subsequently developed a proposal which has been submitted to each of the 5 LMCs covering the Consortium for information.

We are now writing to you to enquire if you would be interested in taking up the offer of accessing the LMCs HR Advisory Service, a briefing paper outlining the main points can be available on request from [stevie.simpkin@nwlmcs.org](mailto:stevie.simpkin@nwlmcs.org).

We know that some PCNs already contract with an independent HR service provider and from the responses to the survey, understand that some are considering leaving that contract to utilise the LMC HR Service.

We are also aware that with a new government in place and potential changes to employment legislation, there is likely to be a greater need to access appropriate, NHS focused HR expertise and advice to mitigate employment risks arising from that new legislation. This is coupled with the complex environment emerging from changes to the DES, introduction of additional ARRS role and in particular the GP ARRS role.

## **Costs**

As we are part of the wider NHS family, our job is to support you and assist in keeping your costs as low as possible. Engaging with our service means that we can keep costs low (based on a costing of 6p per patient headcount), provide a service which understands your business needs and uses professional HR experts who have had considerable NHS experience in both primary care, acute/secondary care and the strategic issues within the wider NHS. This is also backed up by support from an established legal firm specialising in

employment law especially within the NHS. All of which is included in the price – based on a patient/population size of 30,000 the cost would be approx.£1800 a year for example.

### **Core HR offer and wider strategic offer**

The main core offer covers basic HR operational activities/problems and issues. However, we are also able to offer more strategic advice and support as outlined in the paper attached, this will attract a more commercial rate but will be below that charged by larger HR companies/providers and management consultants. More of you are asking for support with organisational development; business continuity and planning; succession planning for example.

We would be very happy to arrange to meet with you and chat through these options or alternatively, if you want to go ahead, please contact the LMC HR Service Lead, Stevie Simpkin via email [stevie.simpkin@nwlmc.org](mailto:stevie.simpkin@nwlmc.org) and we can make the necessary arrangements to begin a formal contract with you.

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### **Champix Prescribing**

In Lancashire, we have been receiving reports that patients are being directed to their GP for Champix prescriptions rather than these being issued by smoking cessation services. Without a LIS/LES arrangement in place, practices are not funded to undertake this work and we are in touch with commissioners the concerns raised to us. Please let us know if you have experienced any issues.

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### **Artificial Intelligence (AI) within GP Practices - Guidance**

Please find guidance [here](#) from Lancashire and South Cumbria ICB.

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### **North Cumbria Whats App Groups**

North Cumbria LMC has introduced an additional WhatsApp group to complement the existing GP Referendum group. This new group provides a dedicated space for practices to report any transfers of work and to engage in discussions with their peers about related issues. By fostering open communication and collaboration, the group aims to ensure that the LMC is promptly informed of challenges faced by practices, enabling better support and advocacy. Practices are encouraged to join and actively participate to share insights and experiences.

If you would like to join, please contact [Mikaela George](#).

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### **Early Diagnosis Cancer Navigators – Expression of Interest Open - Lancashire and South Cumbria only**

Lancashire and South Cumbria Cancer Alliance are reaching out to PCNs to understand if there is an interest in piloting a new Early Diagnosis Cancer Navigator role. The role will work across your PCN to improve earlier diagnosis of cancer, focusing on improvements required specifically for your population. For further information and to express your interest, please see letter [here](#) and form to submit by the **28th January 2025**.

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### **Academy Matters - MLCSU IT Training Newsletter - December 2024**

Please see the most recent MLCSU IT training newsletter: [December 2024 - MLCSU Academy](#)

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## LMC Vacancies

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

- North Cumbria - 2 seats available
- Central Lancashire - 3 seats 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.

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## 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.



