



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Monday 9th March 2020

GP Contract Roadshow

We held two Roadshows where members from the GPC England executive team presented on the GP contract details for 2020-21. Thank you to all those who attended the roadshows held in Preston and Penrith. The roadshow presentation with a commentary from Dr Richard Vautrey is available [here](#).

Neurology training

There will be a workshop on 'How to learn well - mastering the art of lifelong learning' based on the latest neuroscience research by Dr Abhijit Das Neurology Consultant Royal Preston Hospital. This will take place **Tuesday 17th March at the University of Central Lancashire room HA108**. The event will start at 7pm with food at 6.30pm. Please let [Maria](#) know if you would like to attend.

Sharps Bins

Following queries from practices regarding the correct use of purple sharps bins and yellow sharps bins we have sought the following clarification from Stericycle:

- The yellow sharps are for hypodermic needles, syringes and syringe barrels including those contaminated with medicines (not cytotoxic or cytostatic) used medicinal vials and other sharps instruments or item including teeth without amalgam fillings.
- The purple sharps are for sharps, syringe barrels contaminated with cytotoxic or cytostatic medicines only e.g. chemotherapy drugs, Depo-Provera, chloramphenicol.

Letter to CCGs on financial impact of GP contract and ARRS funding

NHS England has published a [letter to CCGs which sets out the financial implications of the GP contract](#) and includes details about how the ARRS funding will work.

DDRB submission

The BMA's submission to the DDRB is now available on the [BMA website](#).

LES/LIS investment

Concerns were raised to the BMA regarding a letter (predating the GP contract agreement) which states that local LES funding will be used to assist with CCG deficits, conflicting with the new contract agreement that local investment must be reinvested by the CCG into primary medical care. Read the NHS England [contract update letter](#).





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Coronavirus (COVID-19) update

The [BMA webpage](#) is regularly updated with guidance and links to information from official UK agencies, including a link to the [PHE guidance for primary care](#) and the [Standard Operating Procedures for primary care](#). Other updates include a GMC statement on regulation in light of Covid-19, clarification of what cleaning equipment to use, and updated guidance to include 111 online tool.

NHS England sent a [letter on preparedness](#) to all practices last week, which confirms that practices will be sent an initial stock of PPE, including aprons, examination gloves and face masks this week. In addition, practices are being advised to change face-to-face appointments booked online to triage appointments via telephone or video, and have published [commissioning guidance on the process for managing GP practice requests to suspend online bookings](#) of appointments which has been identified as a possible mitigating action to manage infection risk of COVID-19. More information is available [here](#).

The [Government COVID 19 action plan](#) was also published last week. The action plan features, in the event of a major outbreak, the possibility of cancelling non-urgent operations and asking retired doctors to return to work. Read the BMA statement in response to the action plan [here](#).

CQC has emailed all providers with a [statement](#) that they will be reviewing inspection plans on an ongoing basis during the outbreak. CQC are likely to be significantly reducing inspections and will be working closely with practices to identify the most appropriate approach based on a risk assessment on a case by case basis.

On 5 March 2020, a [statutory instrument was made into law that adds COVID-19 to the list of notifiable diseases](#) and SARS-COV-2 to the list of notifiable causative agents. This change in law requires practices in England to report all cases of COVID-19 to Public Health England. Read more [here](#).

Practice registration – PCSE Online

This is a reminder that practices are required to register a nominated administrator to be able to action performers' list requests that require practice validation. While practices will already have administrators registered with PCSE Online for purposes such as supplies and medical records, additional registration is required for the performers' list role. PCSE have sent letters with registration codes and details via recorded delivery to all CQC registered practice managers. Practices that have not yet registered are encouraged to check with the relevant practice manager to obtain the details and if needed can request a new registration letter by [contacting PCSE](#).

Commonwealth Fund Survey of primary care physicians

The Health Foundation has published their Commonwealth Fund Survey of primary care physicians today, which showed that UK GPs were the least satisfied with amount of time they have with patients. Read more [here](#).

