



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 4th July

Message from the new LMC Chief Executive

It is with great pleasure that I write to you today as the newly appointed CEO of Lancashire and Cumbria Consortium of Local Medical Committees. I am truly honoured to have been entrusted with this vital role, to help safeguard and protect the rights of my fellow general practice colleagues.

Since starting my leadership journey in 2011 at the Fylde and Wyre CCG, I have always been intrigued by the role that the LMC plays in shaping the future of general practice. I have always viewed the LMC as a guardian of general practice. My predecessor Peter Higgins has left some big shoes to fill, and I feel especially lucky to be joining such an excellent team of people who tirelessly work behind the scenes to provide local support and to act as advocates for general practice.

As we embark on this new chapter together, I want to assure you that my primary focus will be on fostering a supportive and collaborative environment where every GP feels valued and empowered. Political agendas and the national media narrative will have the nation believe that we are isolated businesses with little or no power to influence change. I would like to counter that narrative with one where the profession is ready to unite, recognizing the power we hold when we work together. The collective wisdom and expertise within our profession are extraordinary. When we share our knowledge, insights, and experiences, we become an unstoppable force, capable of driving positive change and improving the lives of countless individuals, including our own.

I am committed to advocating for our profession and ensuring that your voices are heard at local, regional, and national levels. It is essential that we have a seat at the table when policies and decisions affecting general practice are being discussed and formulated.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me and my team with any questions or concerns you may have. I am looking forward to getting to know each of you in due course.

Warm regards,

Adam

Moving from two to one dose in the HPV vaccine schedule for those aged under 25

[The change to the HPV vaccine programme from 1 September 2023 has been published.](#) One dose has been shown to be as effective as two at providing protection from HPV infection, so only one dose will be required by teenagers and GBMSM aged up to 25 to be fully protected. Those who have already received one dose of the vaccine prior to September 2023 will be considered fully vaccinated. GBMSM aged 25 to 45 will still require two doses and those living with HIV or known to be immunocompromised will still require three doses.



IIF Achievement – Declaration Process (L&SC)

PCN Leads in L&SC were contacted by the ICB on 26 June and advised the CQRS team had indicated that final achievement calculations would be made on that date and be available for declaration. This declaration would be required by 7 July for the 20 July payment date. We know that some PCNs have reservations about completing their declaration currently. This is owing to no further information being offered about how the ICB will be identifying and managing any actions that arise from the PCN exception report produced by local PCNs. This report articulated various anomalies regarding the IIF requirements and the hurdles preventing PCNs from achieving specific targets for 2022-23 due to no fault of their own.

We understand the ICB are still considering the exception report but at this stage, we have no update on any local discretion that may be applied because of this work. We would expect any adjustments to be made using ICB discretionary payments i.e. separate to the CQRS declaration but can appreciate that this may not be assurance enough for some. The ICB are encouraging PCNs to declare only if they are happy that the information reported in CQRS matches their own in year activity and information, to allow for the CQRS payments to be processed in July and that any discrepancies with the data should be highlighted to england.lancsat-medical@nhs.net. You may wish to contact the Primary Care Commissioning Team - Medical regarding any issues highlighted in the exception report relevant to your individual PCN.

RAG Rating

General Practice has reached [unsafe limits](#). We would like to remind you that the LMC has been collecting RAG ratings scores from practices. The system in place is specifically designed to take up as little of your time as possible. We are asking you to send through your RAG rating scores by using the below indicators:

- **Green** – Practice has capacity available to deal with referrals
- **Amber** – Practice has limited capacity and may not be able to see everyone when they want to be seen
- **Red** – Practice has no capacity and is not able to accept referrals or has run out of appointments

Please also notify us if your practice has any changes to the above indicators, we are not requesting a daily status, only a changed score. Please email all RAG ratings to enquiries@nwlmc.org.

Patient registration at GP surgeries

[Anyone in England can register with a GP surgery](#). There is no need to provide proof of ID, address, or immigration status to submit an application to register with a GP. Some Surgeries ask patients for supporting documentation as it can:

- help the surgery find medical records or transfer them from their current GP
- confirm that they live in the surgery's area (or "practice boundary") if they do not accept patients from outside this area

If they do not have a permanent address patients can still register using a temporary address or the address of the GP surgery.



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The digital '[Register with a GP surgery](#)' service has been designed to make it easier for people to register including those from vulnerable groups and documentation should not be a barrier to accessing care. A complementary paper form is also being made available, and both formats have been designed using feedback from those who are most at risk of exclusion and have the poorest health outcomes. NHSE has [worked with charities](#) such as Groundswell and Doctors of the World to do this.

New NHSE service to confirm GP registration status

From July, patients transferring GP practice will receive confirmation that their registration has been successful via a [new Notify a Patient service](#). It aims to reduce GP admin burden by reducing the number of calls or visits from patients to confirm their registration status and is set to be rolled out for the majority of registrations by the end of the year.

Confirmation is sent via NHS App, email, SMS, or post. With messaging being handled centrally, practices may wish to consider how they manage the confirmations they currently send. For more information or to be involved in testing the service, please email england.register-gp-surgery.support@nhs.net

Bariatric Surgery Aftercare - Inappropriate requests of primary care

Due to increasing requests coming to GP practices from patients who have been abroad for bariatric surgery, the LMC has created a [template letter](#) for Lancashire and South Cumbria only.

You may find the following link useful in managing patient queries about private healthcare in general: [What happens when you are referred by your GP to see a Consultant Privately?](#)

BMA's Patient Liaison Group (PLG) member vacancies

The BMA currently are looking to appoint the following positions:

[1x BMA grassroots doctor member](#)

[3X Patient/ lay members](#)

The deadline is 9th July 2023.

LMC pages and guidance for practices

- ❖ See your LMC GP representatives [here](#)
- ❖ See our LMC support services [here](#).
- ❖ See upcoming LMC and non LMC training events: [Training & Events](#)
- ❖ Follow us on Twitter: [@nwlmc](#)s
- ❖ Contact us for advice and guidance on all things General Practice: enquiries@nwlmc.org

