



# Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022

## Summary of GP contract arrangements 2022/23

Last week we sent out an email and document highlighting the main elements of the contract changes for 22/23. Please see [here](#) if you haven't seen it yet.

If you have any queries regarding the contract, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

## Isolation note service

On 21 February, the Prime Minister announced that from 24 February self-isolation would no longer be a legal requirement in England. [New guidance has been published here.](#)

The NHS isolation note service will continue to operate until at least April 2022. The site, which provides people with an isolation note for COVID-19, has been updated with an additional banner that alerts individuals that rules on self-isolation are changing. This banner contains links to the most up to date advice on staying at home or self-isolating across the UK.

## Flu Reimbursement

Practices have recently been sent a letter detailing important information on ordering their flu vaccinations for the 2022/23 season. Within this letter, practices were advised that the following cohorts that were eligible in the 2021/22 season are now no longer included for 2022/23:

- those aged 50 to 64 years
- secondary school children in Years 7 to 11 (i.e., between 11 and 15 years of age)

The LMC have contacted the Screening and Immunisation team at NHSEI on this issue and they have advised that:

- Sanofi will allow amendments to orders for 6 weeks from the date the flu reimbursement letter was published.
- Viatrix (Formerly Mylan) will allow amendments to orders up until end of August 2022 but they will only allow a reduction of 20% of order.
- We are waiting to hear back from Seqirus regarding amending orders.

## Entitlement to NHS Primary Care

Some practice websites are currently displaying messaging advising that temporary residents may be charged to access GP services when visiting from abroad and referencing reciprocal health care arrangements. Practices are reminded that NHS primary medical care is free and accessible to all, and reciprocal health care arrangements are not relevant. Please ensure your practice website does not include any reference to charging temporary residents for NHS primary medical care services. More information is available in the [Primary Care Policy and Guidance Manual](#).





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## Outbreak of extensively drug resistant (XDR) *Shigella sonnei* detected in the UK

[62 cases of XDR \*S. sonnei\*](#) have been detected throughout the UK since September 2021. Infections are transmitted sexually in gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men (MSM). Half of interviewed cases presented to A&E, 23% were hospitalised. This strain is resistant to all first line agents used for treatment for prolonged symptoms or severe shigellosis.

NHSE has advised that Primary care plays a fundamental role in early detection of infection: please take sexual history of male cases with acute gastroenteritis, request stool cultures and antibiotic sensitivity if MSM, and, if treatment is indicated, discuss confirmed cases with the microbiologist.

## Antibiotic resistant strains of Gonorrhoea detected in England

[Four cases of ceftriaxone-resistant gonorrhoea](#) were detected in England in December 2021 and January 2022. Ceftriaxone is the last line empirical therapy for gonorrhoea, so the detection of these cases is a concern. Ceftriaxone-resistant strains have occasionally been detected previously, always associated with overseas travel. [GPs play a key role in providing sexual health care](#) and are recommended to refer suspected or confirmed cases of gonorrhoea to their local sexual health service for treatment (ceftriaxone 1g IM), management and partner notification. Testing for gonorrhoea and other STIs is also available through self-sampling services such as [freetest.me](#) and [SH:24](#).

## New campaign to combat the fear of cancer

NHSE have launched a new phase of the 'Help Us, Help You' campaign taking a radically different approach to detecting cancer earlier for patients, when it is easier to treat. The campaign aims to address the barriers to people coming forward early by encouraging those who have noticed something in their body that doesn't feel right and are worried it could be cancer to contact their GP practice.

The campaign is running this month and is the first 'Help Us, Help You' cancer campaign to focus on tackling the 'fear' of cancer rather than specific symptoms. [Campaign materials can be downloaded from the Campaign Resource Centre](#).

## Lancaster Medical School – Senior Clinical Lecturer

[Lancaster Medical School](#) are looking to appoint a Senior Clinical Lecturer in General Practice to join the growing leadership team of the Primary Care Academic Teaching department in the Faculty of Health and Medicine at Lancaster University. This provides an exciting opportunity for anyone with either undergraduate or postgraduate medical education background. The SCL-GP roles are part time and complement and fit flexibly around GP clinical work. Lancaster University provides many employment benefits.

See further details [here](#).

