



# Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## COVID-19 Vaccination programme

The COVID-19 local vaccination services deployment in community settings [Standard Operating Procedure](#) has been updated to reflect the addition of the AstraZeneca vaccine and the change to the second dose.

NHSE/I has also amended the [Enhanced Service specification](#) to permit the vaccination of unregistered frontline health and social care workers as well as those who are registered with a practice outside of the PCN grouping. It also reflects the JCVI guidance on administration of the second dose, with the item of service payment now to be paid per dose.

The [Patient Group Direction](#) for the Pfizer vaccine has been amended to permit the drawing of 5 or 6 doses from the vial, and the administration of a potential sixth dose is now covered within the PGD. All the NHSE/I guidance about the COVID-19 Vaccination programme can be accessed [here](#).

## Vote on future negotiations on the PCN DES (attached)

Last November the LMC conference decided that our GPC leaders did not have a legitimate mandate to renegotiate the PCN DES. As a consequence, every GP in England is being balloted to decide whether to provide such a mandate going forward. This is a ballot of all GPs practicing in England, not just BMA members. Please ensure all relevant colleagues in your practice are aware of this vote.

In our area

1. *PCNs have provided much needed funding to primary care*
2. *PCN in this area generally work well and support our ways of working*
3. *A vote against would lead to inevitable disruption out of our control*

Your LMC therefore urges you to vote on this important issue. If you wish to discuss anything further with your LMC before casting your vote, please feel free to get in touch.

## Domestic abuse letters

The BMA believes that there is no need for medical involvement in the process for gaining access to legal aid for domestic abuse victims. BMA GPC feel that such requests can compromise the relationship between doctor and patient, and that legal aid agencies should take the word of victims without needing to consult a GP – who themselves may not be best placed to confirm whether domestic abuse has occurred. This is a position they continue to make clear through input into the Government's ongoing [review into bureaucracy in General Practice](#).

While these letters are not funded by the NHS contract and practices are able to charge patients a fee for their completion, the BMA recommends that they do not. Ultimately, however, this is at the practice's discretion.





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## Home delivery of medicines and appliances

Following the announcement of the national lockdown, NHSE/I will be commissioning the Home Delivery Service of medicines and appliances again for those identified as clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) on the shielded patient list until 21 February. If friends and family are not able to collect medicines for CEV people, and it is not possible to arrange a volunteer, then CEV patients will be eligible for free medicines delivery.

Read more in the [letter announcing the service](#) published this week.

## LMC response to ICS consultation

Please find the LMC response **attached**. We are also expecting a copy of the BMA's response shortly, which we will look to share with you.

## Expressions of interest in becoming sessional tutors for Lancaster Medical School

Please see the **attached** document.

## Practice vacancies

If you have a practice vacancy or are currently looking for work be sure to look at our [practice vacancies page](#) on the LMC website.

## LMC training events

Don't forget to have a look at our training events on the LMC website, [here](#).

