



## Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

### Help us grow our audience - LMC Distribution list

We would like to grow our LMC audience. If you know any GPs or PMs in your practice that don't receive this Brieflet and/or is not on our distribution list, please ask them to [get in touch with us!](#)

### Last chance to complete the LMC Financial Barometer

As discussed, and presented at the LMC PM liaison forums in October, we have created an anonymised financial barometer (RAG rating tool) of individual GP surgeries grouped into LMC constituent areas. We believe this can be a valuable tool which will allow us to influence and lobby commissioners for more funding. Or at the very least prevent funding reductions imposed arbitrarily to balance the ICB books.

It's a once-a-year exercise that takes less than 2 minutes to complete but will be a good initiative for us to be able to help you. GP Partners, please ask your Practice Managers if they have completed this one question questionnaire. If you need a new link sent to you to complete it, [please contact us](#) stating what area your practice is in so we can send you the correct link.

### General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

The LMC launched GPAS last week. Thank you to everyone that submitted data on behalf of your Practice. If you are a Practice Manager and have not received any details regarding GPAS [please let us know.](#)

You can see the SitRep results from last Friday [on our website.](#)

### Have your say on the future of General Practice

**GENERAL PRACTICE IN ENGLAND  
IS AT A WATERSHED MOMENT.  
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SHARE WHAT  
YOU THINK ABOUT HOW GPs WORK AND  
HOW WE DELIVER PATIENT CARE.**

**FUTURE OF GENERAL PRACTICE**

GPC England is surveying ALL GPs to determine a united vision rooted in common ground with our patients, and common sense with our commissioners.

This is your opportunity to shape our vision. We need to hear your thoughts on your current contract and what you want to see from it in the future. Your input will play an important role in shaping the future of general practice.

Please scan the QR code to have your say





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### GP pressures and workforce data

The BMA collate monthly appointment and the [latest workforce data](#) onto their website, this has been refreshed and republished, and is a great resource for signposting PPGs, local press and MPs. October 2023's data shows that the NHS in England has 2,062 fewer fully qualified FTE GPs than we did in September 2015. The number of GP practices in England has also decreased by 119 over the past year – reflecting a continued trend of closures as well as mergers primarily due to a lack of workforce that coincides with rise in patients.

As of October 2023, there was another record-high of almost 63 million patients registered with practices in England, with an average of 9,954 patients registered per practice. A single full-time GP is now responsible for an average of 2,300 patients – an increase of 362 more than September 2015.

Click [here](#) for more infographics and data on showing the pressures in General Practice.

We urge practices to continue to use our [safe working guidance](#) to limit contacts to 25 per day in order to prioritise safe patient care, within the present bounds of the GMS contract.

### What can we learn from innovation in general practice

Despite current contractual, financial, and capacity constraints, GPs are innovating in different ways to deliver high-quality care and attract and retain staff. In [a collection of case-studies](#), the BMA explore how eight GP providers are implementing innovative models, from improving access to a wider range of services for patients to effective chronic disease management. There is no one-size-fits-all solution, but the BMA hope these examples will start a conversation about what is possible and begin to shape a vision for how to solve some of the barriers facing general practice. These models demonstrate that some solutions to the current crisis in general practice already exist but realising them on a larger scale will require far greater investment, contractual flexibility and political will.

Read more [here](#)

### UHUK Awareness Campaign – Winter 2023-24

UHUK is a partnership of urgent and integrated healthcare social enterprise providers who cover 64% of the UK population. UHUK members provide a wide range of NHS services including but not limited to NHS 111, local clinical assessment hubs (CAS), virtual wards, palliative care, Primary Care In and Out of Hours (OOH), Urgent Treatment Centres (UTCs) and A&E triage and treatment.

All UHUK member organisations follow social enterprise principles, meaning any surpluses are reinvested into local services or communities. Starting this month, UHUK is launching an awareness raising campaign to highlight how vital urgent and integrated care providers are to the NHS and the wider health and care system.

The campaign webpage, video and fact sheet can be found [here](#) and UHUK followed on [LinkedIn](#) or [X](#).





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### Survey on how to prevent and reduce violence towards NHS staff

The Social Partnership Forum and NHS Employers are conducting a survey to inform recommendations on how to prevent and reduce violence towards NHS staff. They are mapping existing work, assessing its impact and identifying measures to reduce violence and aggression towards NHS staff. [Take the survey](#) (it takes ten minutes to complete and closes on 22 December).

The LMC offers conflict management training for all practice staff which covers the legal aspects of managing aggressive patients, understanding conflict and de-escalating conflict. [Please get in touch to find out more and/ or if you would like the LMC to deliver a session for your Practice.](#)

### LMC Soapboxes

The LMC hosts monthly 1 hour drop-in sessions via Microsoft Teams for all Practice Managers and GPs across Lancashire & Cumbria. The LMC soapbox is an opportunity for you to raise anything with your LMC, meet your representatives, hear about the services we can provide but most importantly, we would like to hear from you and how we can support you!

You are welcome to dip in and out - There is no requirement to stay the full hour and you are welcome to just listen. You will receive posters via email with details of how to join the Soapbox for your area. Upcoming Soapbox's:

- Central Lancashire: 19th December
- Cumbria: 19th December
- Pennine: 20th December
- Fylde Coast: 12th January
- Morecambe Bay: January TBC

Please [let us know](#) if you have any questions!

### Undergraduate GP Placement Survey

Medical Schools are currently struggling to identify adequate placement providers in general practice. University of Liverpool is running a [survey](#) which aims to identify the factors which affect a practice's decision to host undergraduate medical students. The data will be used by medical schools to identify drivers and barriers to medical student placements in general practice to tailor placement requirements appropriately and identify strategies to help practices overcome potential barriers.

If you are interested in participating, please read the [Participant Information](#) sheet and complete the online survey [here](#) (it is fully anonymous and should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete). Please contact Dr Kathryn J Harrison ([docthark@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:docthark@liverpool.ac.uk)) for any queries.

### Freedom to Speak Up Guardian

[Freedom to Speak Up Guardian | Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs \(nwlmc.org\)](#)

