



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs



Tuesday 16th December 2025

Help Us Grow Our Audience

We understand that you are busy and are likely to receive many emails on a daily basis. However it is important for you to receive communications from us because **we can help and support you**. We know there are many colleagues who do not receive our brieflet, so please help us by sharing this with your team and letting us know to add them to our distribution lists.

OpenSAFELY

Activations for the OpenSAFELY service currently stand at around 45%. The BMA GPC is keen to see this reach 100%.

Practices can activate access using the NHS England guidance available at the following link: [How to activate the OpenSAFELY analytics platform - NHS England Digital](#)

Practices are encouraged to activate OpenSAFELY, which you are obliged to do under the Health and Social Care Act, following the issuing of a data direction.

Martyn's Law - What it means for Practices

Martyn's Law introduces a "protect duty" that will legally require premises with significant public access to improve their protective security and preparedness against terrorism. For most GP practices the law won't directly apply because typical patient numbers are below the threshold. But larger facilities or those hosting big public clinics may fall in scope, and all practices should be aware of the law as it becomes enforceable from around 2027.

If a healthcare building hosts multiple GP practices, has large shared waiting areas, or runs large public events or clinics (e.g. mass vaccination clinics), it may meet the capacity threshold of over 200 persons, and be treated as a "qualifying premises". In that case, a standard duty will apply.

Responsibilities if in scope (over 200 persons reasonably expected to be present at one time)

- The responsible person (usually the practice owner or managing organisation) will need to register with the SIA.
- The practice must carry out a risk assessment and implement proportionate protective procedures (not necessarily physical changes, but effective processes and training).
- Staff should be trained on key safety procedures like evacuation and invacuation (taking shelter).

There's a grace period of at least 24 months before Martyn's Law duties are enforceable. This gives NHS organisations and practice managers time to understand their obligations and prepare.

If you have any specific questions on this change, please get in touch with our Executive Lead and Consortium Estates Lead - [Ross Bridle](#).





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Urgent: Practice Survey on Proposed Basket LES (Cumbria Only)

This is a reminder to please complete the survey regarding the proposed Medicines LES.

We have only received a small number of responses so far, and it is essential that we hear from as many practices as possible. Without sufficient feedback, it becomes much harder for the LMC to robustly represent general practice concerns and challenge the ICB on issues around clinical risk, workload, funding, and the all-or-nothing nature of the LES.

As a reminder, attached again are [the draft Medicines LES specification](#) and the [presentation from last Tuesday evening's open meeting](#) for those who were unable to attend.

Based on the current specification and the balance of risk versus remuneration, the LMC's advice remains not to sign up to this LES in its present form. However, we recognise that participation is ultimately a practice-level decision. The purpose of this survey is to give us a clear picture of likely uptake so that we can accurately reflect the collective position of practices in our discussions with the ICB.

Please [Complete the short survey here.](#)

We would be very grateful if all practices could respond by Wednesday 17 December. Apologies again for the short turnaround, but this information is urgently needed to inform discussions with the ICB ahead of the Christmas break.

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, [please do get in touch.](#)

Safeguarding Support & Training – Practice Survey

The LMC is carrying out a short survey to understand how practices currently manage safeguarding and to identify where additional support or training would be most beneficial. Your feedback will help shape future safeguarding support and training offers.

[The survey can be completed here](#) and should take only a few minutes.

K.Vita – LSCMMG consultation update (Lancs & South Cumbria)

The Lancashire & South Cumbria Medicines Management Group (LSCMMG) has reissued a consultation on K.Vita, despite previous feedback from the LMC recommending that the drug remains classified as RED. The LMC has responded again to the new consultation and continues to hold a strong position that K.Vita should remain a RED drug. We will keep practices updated on any further developments or changes to the formulary position.





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Mesalazine Request to LSCMMG (Lancs & South Cumbria)

Following concerns raised by practices, the LMC has formally requested that the Lancashire and South Cumbria Medicines Management Group (LSCMMG) reconsider the recent reclassification of mesalazine to Amber 0.

Mesalazine has recognised renal risks and requires early and ongoing monitoring. The LMC has highlighted that these monitoring requirements raise questions about the appropriateness of an Amber 0 classification in the absence of a formal shared care arrangement and clear specialist accountability.

Practices are reminded that participation in shared care prescribing arrangements is voluntary. GPs should only accept ongoing prescribing responsibility where they are satisfied that roles, monitoring arrangements, clinical accountability and communication processes are clear and workable.

The LMC will update practices once a response is received from LSCMMG.

England LMC Conference

The BMA GPC holds an annual conference bringing together representatives from Local Medical Committees (LMCs) across England. Each year, an elected agenda committee sets the programme, with over 300 representatives attending to debate and vote on a wide range of motions affecting general practice in England.

The 2025 England LMC Conference took place on Friday 7 November at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

[You can watch the conference recording here.](#)

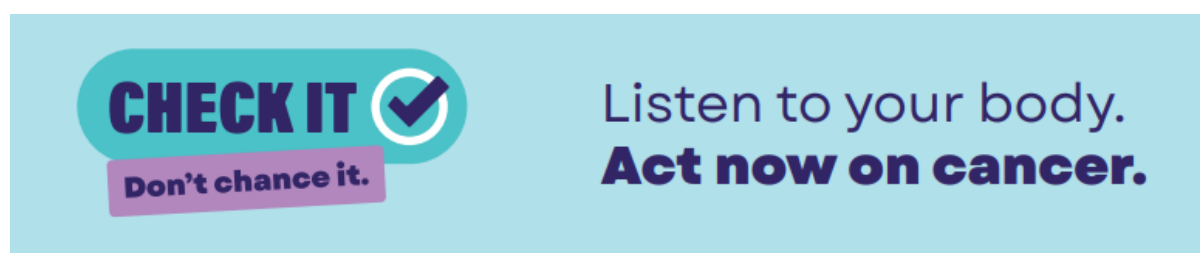
[Also see Conference news here which details the resolutions and election results.](#)

‘Check it, Don’t Chance it!’ (Lancs & South Cumbria)

Listen to your body. Act now on cancer.

Launching Lancashire and South Cumbria’s Cancer Awareness Campaign on 12th January 2026

Lancashire and South Cumbria’s Cancer Alliance will be launching their new digital cancer awareness campaign on the 12th of January and therefore wanted to make Primary Care aware that this will be coming in the new year. The campaign aims to encourage people to talk about cancer, check for symptoms, and act early by contacting their GP.





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1. Campaign Overview

- **Campaign Name:** Check it, don't chance it. Listen to your body – Act Now on Cancer
- **Objective:** Encourage early presentation of cancer symptoms by promoting awareness of key signs and urging people to see their GP if symptoms persist.
- **Duration:** Launching with a burst of activity between 12th January 2026 – 9th March 2026, the campaign will run for the 3 months.
- **Target Audience:** Adults in Lancashire and South Cumbria; people who tend to delay presentation or assume symptoms aren't serious; underserved communities and high-inequality neighbourhoods.

2. Key Campaign Messages

- **Listen to your body. Act now on cancer.**
- Symptoms featured:
 - Lump on body
 - Pain that won't go away
 - Blood in poo
 - Blood in pee
 - Unexplained weight loss
- Seek help straight away, "Your doctor will want to see you."

Campaign resources will be shared in the New Year so that Primary Care can use them to help promote this campaign locally. For more information, please contact:

- **Project Lead:** Katie Pierce, katie.pierce2@nhs.net
- **Communications Contact:** Julia Taylor, julia.taylor22@nhs.net

Example Digital Screen post:





Lancashire & Cumbria Consortium of LMCs

ABOUT US

The Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria Local Medical Committees is a statutory representative body for GPs & their Practices.

WHAT WE DO

We are the professional voice for GPs, advising & supporting Practices on all things General Practice.

SERVICES WE OFFER

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓ Advice & Guidance | ✓ Support & Development |
| ✓ Complaints | ✓ Occupational Health Service |
| ✓ CQC Inspections | ✓ Training & Events |
| ✓ Premises | ✓ HR Service |
| ✓ GP Performance | ✓ Sessional GP Support |
| ✓ GP Contracts | ✓ GP Resilience Programme |
| ✓ Partnership Affairs | ✓ Partnership Agreement Drafting |

And much more!

[Check out our website](#) or [get in touch](#) to see how we can support you!

