



Update from the Consortium of Lancashire & Cumbria LMCs

Tuesday 18th March

Weekly Brieflet brought to you by Lancashire & Cumbria Consortium of Local Medical Committees

This Brieflet includes the following topics:

- General Practice Alert State (GPAS)
- Survey on Coroner Interactions - GP Feedback Requested
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- Central Lancashire End Weight Stigma



- GP Shortages Explained Poster
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- Help us grow our audience

General Practice Alert State (GPAS)

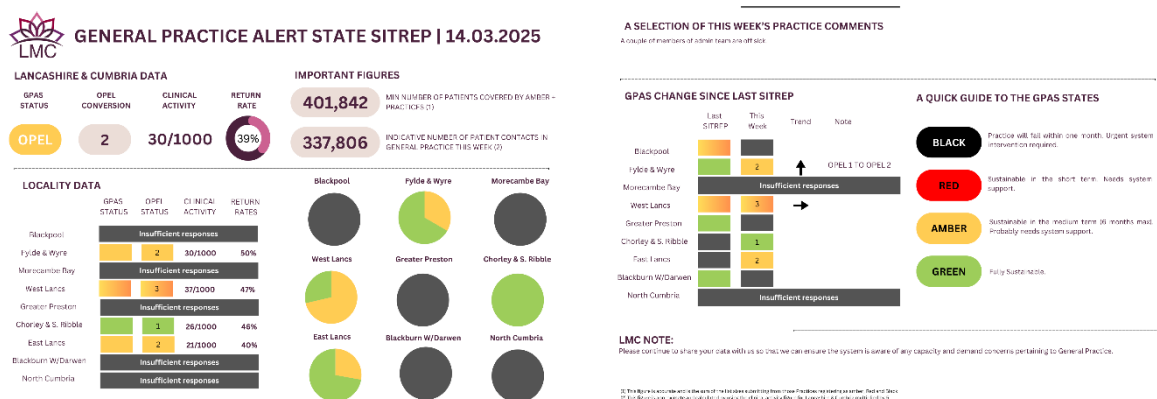
You can see the latest SitRep results below. Results can also be found [on our website](#).

The data we do not receive prevents us from providing a robust picture of system partners and hinders our efforts to push for more support on your behalf.

We really appreciate you taking the time to help us help you.

[Please let us know](#) if you are a Practice Manager and do not receive the GPAS input emails.

If someone at your practice needs to be added to the distribution list please email enquiries@nwlmc.org. Submission links are sent out every Tuesday and Wednesday.



Please let us know if you have any questions/ issues

Survey on Coroner Interactions - GP Feedback Requested

As your Local Medical Committee (LMC), we are keen to understand how death certification reform is affecting your practice, particularly in relation to interactions with coroners and coroners' officers. Your feedback will help us engage with local coroners to refine processes and improve communication.

We would appreciate your input on the following aspects. Please do not include any patient-identifiable information within your responses. This survey is open to all practice staff who have been involved in interactions with coroners.

The survey is available to complete [here](#).

LSC ICB Local Enhanced Service Review - Decommissioned LESs

Practices in Lancashire and South Cumbria will be well aware of the ICB's recent Local Enhanced Service review and new specifications proposed for 2025/26.

We understand that there are practices with concerns about the potential impact on patient care and practice sustainability, moving forward, and want to assure you that the LMC is actively advocating on your behalf. We appreciate the difficulty many of you are facing in making an informed decision about what is deliverable based on the information you have available and that feedback to the ICB at the end of last week may not represent many practices' final positions.

Unfortunately, we feel we must clarify that the ICB has not engaged in detailed consultation with the LMC before proceeding with plans to decommission certain Local Enhanced Services, so we recognise that letters landing with affected practices over the past week may present further challenges. We strongly encourage you to share any concerns or specific impacts that these decisions may have on your practice so that we can represent your views effectively.

Executive Summaries for Local Enhanced Services 2025-26 - L&SC ICB Area

Following feedback from our practices regarding the new LES specifications, the LMC have produced the below Executive Summaries to aid understanding and decision making in practices.

- [12 Lead ECGs in Primary Care](#)
- [Advice and Guidance](#)
- [Care Home](#)
- [Complex Injections](#)
- [Dementia Annual Review](#)
- [Enhanced Diabetes Care](#)
- [Long-Term Conditions \(LTC\)](#)
- [Medicines Optimisation](#)
- [Palliative Care](#)
- [Phlebotomy](#)
- [Post Bariatric Surgery](#)
- [PSA](#)
- [Respiratory](#)
- [Ring Pessary](#)
- [Shared Care](#)
- [Simple Injections](#)

- [Simple Wound Care](#)

Please note these have not been produced in conjunction with the ICB and we would recommend doing your own due diligence on what is right for your practice. These documents are intended as a guide to the key details of the specifications and we recognise that the clarity offered may not necessarily address all outstanding queries and concerns.

If you would like further support on this, please contact your [Executive Lead](#).

Hospital Medication Prescribing Requests

We have created a letter addressing requests for GPs to prescribe medications without an initial hospital issued prescription. You can view it [here](#).

Additionally, a policy has been developed to guide your response, available [here](#).

Both resources are now part of our guidance on [managing inappropriate workload](#) on our website.

Patient Fitness to Attend Gym – GP Letter Request

In response to recent queries, we have developed a [Patient Fitness to Attend Gym – GP Letter Request template](#).

You can now access this letter on our website under the [Managing Inappropriate Workload section](#).

We hope this new resource proves helpful in supporting your workload management.

If you have any further suggestions or feedback, please feel free to get in touch.

2024/25 Declaration of Completion for 'Simpler Online Requests'

This is a reminder that GPC England has previously advised practices and primary care networks (PCNs) to defer signing up to 2024/25 PCN DES CAIP "simpler online requests" which may request the enable patient access to e-consultations every working day from 8am to 6.30pm (as part of the PCN voluntary contract incentives).

Whilst GPC England recognises the aspiration in relation to the on-line consultation platform and its role as one part of patients' opportunity to contact practices, the BMA do not agree this element of the CAIP proposal was properly communicated during the 24/25 Contract consultation and remain very concerned about the potential implications of this issue for practices.

However, now that agreement has been reached for the 2025/26 contract the BMA would advise practices with outstanding claims for this part of the CAIP to submit their claims well in advance of **Friday 28 March 2025**, but citing the caveats of the above information from the BMA and GPC England. The BMA will be publishing further guidance shortly.

GP Unemployment Crisis

The BMA's UK sessional GPs committee has [surveyed salaried and locum members to help highlight the absurd situation of the growing unemployment/underemployment crisis among GPs](#). The survey showed that

1 in 5 GPs in England plan to change their career because they can't find work. At a time when patients are struggling to access appointments, it is unacceptable that so many skilled GPs are unable to find work. The BMA is also asking all GPs to write to their MP and urge them to support changes that will allow more GPs to work in the NHS. [Write to your MP now by using our tool.](#)

[Read more about the survey and the 'write to your MP tool'](#)

Opportunity to Take Part in Paid Pilot - L&SC ICB Area

Lancashire & South Cumbria ICB have commissioned a Programme called 'WorkWell' aimed at keeping people in work with some brief intervention 'Work and Health Coach' support or getting people closer to the labour market if they are on Employment Support benefits that then become Sickness Benefits. WorkWell offers early intervention and support to those experiencing physical or mental health conditions. Patients living in Lancashire and South Cumbria can access an evidence-based assessment of their health-related barriers to work. A tailored work and health plan is agreed to help overcome these barriers and get the person the support they need to stay in work or return to work after short term recent absence (between 1-6 months).

The 'ask' of participating Practice is as follows:

1. GP Practice staff to 'case find' 300 suitable participants who must be:
 - a. Aged 18 or over
 - b. Not been signed off work for more than 6 months (ideally in the first 0-3 months of sickness absence)
 - c. Not have complex problems – their priorities are MSK, Low level poor mental health (Life stresses, that kind of thing)

- d. Be about to fall out of work – this may be someone who comes to see a practice who talks about going off work.
2. Send a letter & leaflet See Template from the Practice about why WorkWell has been suggested to them. Any practices that use digital communications can email these. They can be supplied digitally.
 3. Put WorkWell posters up in the waiting room of the health facility and have leaflets on the reception desk.
 4. Add the WorkWell animation to the practice TV screen (if it is owned by the practice)

Ian Treasure, Programme Lead – WorkWell Vanguard (WWPPv10) would be happy to answer any questions you may have, particularly regarding patient consent.

The payment offered is a one-off £400 for the initial pilot. The Programme budget ends on 31st March 2025, so **please contact Ian with expressions of interest as soon as possible**. Email: ian.treasure@nhs.net

For more information please visit: [LSC Integrated Care Board; WorkWell](#)

DKA Tool

This tool was developed by a working group as part of the National Children & Young People's Diabetes Network. The group included diabetes healthcare professionals and GPs from around England and Wales.

Feedback on the tool was obtained from Primary Care and Secondary Care health professionals in the North West via survey monkey and email responses. Feedback was also obtained from representatives of the Primary Care Diabetes Society. This feedback was used to develop the final slide set.

The e-learning tool is aimed at primary care health professionals and has been developed with the following learning objectives:

- Recognition of the symptoms of type 1 diabetes in children
- What to do when type 1 diabetes is suspected
- Importance of prompt diagnosis to avoid DKA
- Reasons why the diagnosis might be delayed or missed

The e-learning tool will open and play as a slideshow. Text will be gradually displayed as the user clicks through the slides, and certain points will be highlighted. It will take around 5 minutes to read the slides. The slides are available to view [here](#).

Guidance on Salaried GP Maternity Leave Changes for Employers and Employees

The BMA recently announced a change in maternity leave for salaried GPs which extends the number of weeks for which half maternity pay can be received from 14 to 18 weeks, aligning this with the period of time parental reimbursement can be claimed under the Statement of Financial Entitlements [SFE] for GP locum cover during this period of absence. It also aligns the total period of maternity absence [8 weeks full pay, and now 18 weeks half pay] with that available to equivalent hospital-based doctors.

More information can be found on the BMA [website](#).

GPC England Regional Elections - Nominations closing soon

[GPs Committee England](#) is seeking nominations for voting members of the committee for the 2024-2027 sessions, as regional representatives for the following constituency:

- Cumbria and Lancashire

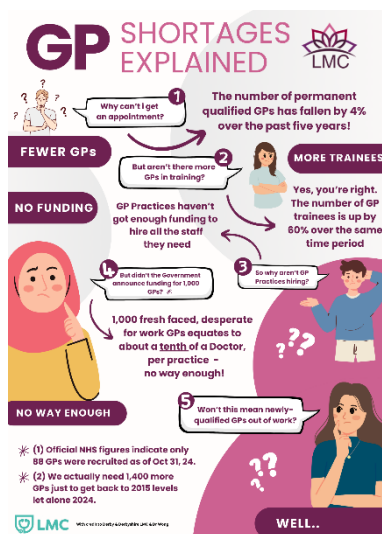
You can nominate yourself [here](#). Nominations close on **21 March 2025 at 12pm**.

If you have any questions or require assistance, please contact elections@bma.org.uk.

For more information about BMA elections please go to <https://www.bma.org.uk/elections>

Central Lancashire End Weight Stigma

Practices in Central Lancashire are invited to support a research project into weight stigma in Central Lancashire. [A poster](#) is available for display in practices and further information is available [here](#) or by emailing PhD student Stella Aster directly - S.Aster2752@student.leedsbeckett.ac.uk



GP Shortages Explained Poster

We have created a poster for you to share with your patients via Social Media and/ or in your Practice waiting rooms.

If you have any requests, or feedback, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

enquires@nwlmcs.org

LMC Training Events 2025

Please see a list of upcoming training events being hosted by the LMC:

- [Complaints Training](#)
- [Conflict Management](#)
- [CQC Update](#)

To book your place or find out more information, please contact Rebecca.Noblett@nwlmcs.org or view [here](#).

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.

[Contact Us](#)