

July 2024 Newsletter

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As we wake up to a new government today and the anticipation of a new health secretary who seems to be signalling more **positive noises about general practice**, it might be reasonable to feel a little optimism. We can but hope for some recognition of the incredible stress that the profession is under. As our committee vice chair, Dr James Howard recently said, this recognition might involve a "shift from the belief that solving system problems must always start with changing general practice".

You may have seen the article in Pulse this week that highlighted our own ICB's plans to introduce new models of care as part of an expansion of the direction originally set out in the Fuller Stocktake. Focusing on digital enablement, health optimisation, acute illness, and patients in the last two years of life, the approaches that the local system is seeking to implement signal their vision for big changes for how patients will access services, and how technology and AI will bridge gaps to keep people out of hospital.

Your LMC met yesterday and were joined by Jan Thomas (ICB CEO) and Dr Fiona Head, (ICB Medical Director). This was our first chance to feedback on the new model approach, as presented. We heard the context around the need and opportunity for change and were assured that the document, and its contents, which have only recently been shared, have been prepared for discussion and to prompt ideas and challenge.

We listened and we challenged and will await robust answers to the questions and concerns that our committee raised on your behalf.

Included in the concerns that we flagged was the letter that Dr Diana Hunter, your LMC Chair, has sent in response to the ICB's digital update of the 6 June. The letter questions the local intention to fund a single digital access model from the start of the next financial year. Any local preferences that are different to the ICB's single system provider will need to be funded by practices themselves. How this decision, with the level of impact it will have on general practice access and clinical processes has been reached, without wider engagement and risk assessment, is concerning. It is something that feels in line with the direction of the published new models but at odds with the assurances of the discursive nature of the proposal documents.

With the advancing emphases on digital pathways and the role of AI in clinical decision making, we can take some comfort that there may be national acceptance that these solutions still require the clinical expertise of GPs and their teams. Speaking of the wider NHS, Wes Streeting is recently quoted as saying, "ultimately, even with the future of the med tech revolution, this is always going to be a people-based service. And we can't deliver the service without exceptional, caring people who work in it."

From our perspective, this conversation on new models of care has only just started and we will continue to represent the exceptional, caring people who work in our local practices as the engagement rolls out and early opportunities to "try something different" emerge. Our questioning and challenge will endure. We are grateful for the feedback in our recent survey and are buoyed by the confidence that you have in us to do this on your behalf.

We'll share more detailed analysis of the results at the roadshow on 17 July and in our September newsletter.



GPC ENGLAND ROADSHOW **F NOT NOW, WHEN?** TAKE ACTION: PROTECT YOUR PRACTICES, PROTECT YOUR PATIENTS

REGISTRATION

17 JULY 2024

14.00PM

DR KATIE BRAMALL-STAINER

GPCE CHAIR



DR JULIUS PARKER

GPCE DEPUTY CHAIR



A free event open to all GPs, GPRs, Practice Managers and Nurses from all constituent practice teams across the region. Join us to hear from the national GPC England Team.

13.30 registration 14.00 start



MONTHLY FOCUS



Co-produced System Guiding Principles to support interface working in a better, more effective way

CB Working Together page	ß
Working Principles Document	☑
Working Together Toolkit	ß

If not now, when? BMA Membership

Tell your GP partners, friends and colleagues to join the BMA today to take advantage of **3-months free membership**.

Considerate, quality & timely communications

Respecting professional accountability and responsibility

with local people and colleagues

For GP partners to vote in the ballot, they need to have joined by 22 July. www.bma.org.uk/join - spread the word

Sign Up



GPC England ballot for GP contractors / partners

Protect Your Patients, Protect Your Practice Vote YES and use the BMA GP Practice Survival Toolkit

The ballot to Save General Practice is open. Following the third annual contract imposition and with general practice at crisis point, we are holding a non-statutory ballot of GP Partners. Funding for core general practice services has been severely eroded. We've lost over 10,000 GPs and over 1,300 practices in a decade while patient numbers increase, and patient dissatisfaction sadly rises.

In the referendum earlier this year almost all of you said a firm NO to the new contract - you were ignored by the Government who have refused to make any improvements or give general practice any more resources.



How to take part in the ballot

The ballot is open to all GP contractors and partners in England and will close on 29 July (to vote you must be a member of the BMA). You should have received an email from **bma@cesvotes.com** - your link to vote is unique and should not be forwarded as it can only be used once.

Support for GP members in England who can't find or didn't receive a voting email. If you have any questions, please email: gpcontract@bma.org.uk

Read our **GP campaign page** for more information about the ballot, contract guidance, and how to order campaign materials such as BMA GP Practice Survival Toolkit cards which fit inside GPs Are On Your Side lanyards, badges, window stickers, and patient leaflets. All can be ordered directly from the **BMA Reps Hub** or via the **GP campaign page**.

BMA GP Practice Survival Toolkit

We will be inviting GP Partners to work with their practice teams and, in liaison with their LMC, to determine the actions they will be willing to take. Each of these actions is outlined in the **BMA GP Practice Survival Toolkit**

It is for each practice to pick and choose as they see fit. You may decide to add to your choices over the days, weeks, and months ahead. This is a marathon, not a sprint. You can read more about these actions in the **guidance provided or in our FAQs**.

Read also our 2024/25 **contract guidance documents**, which now also includes an 'Advice and Guidance **update**', to help you consider how best to approach the contract changes.

Help spread the word to patients

We've produced a range of materials to help you engage patients in the campaign GPs Are On Your Side:

•download our MP4 video and show your next PPG meeting
•download and display posters in your surgery
•save and share our social graphics for patients.

The GPsOnYourSide Campaign page can be shared with patients and the public.

New NHS Vaccination programme against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)

Following **recommendations by the JCVI**, two new **RSV vaccination programmes** will begin from 1 September 2024 for Adults aged 75 – 79 years old and Pregnant women to protect infants

NHSE intend to commission this from General Practice as an Essential Service. This represents a single vaccination. The routine programme means adults become eligible after the age of 75 commencing 1 September 2024, but a catch-up programme will be in place until 31 August 2025.

The programme for pregnant women, designed to create immunity in infants, will commence on 1 September with eligibility after 28 weeks. The antenatal service can be commissioned via a variation to the Trust NHS Standard Contract. Whilst GPCE supports the delivery of this programme via the usual antenatal pathway, opportunistic or on-request GP delivery of antenatal vaccinations will be part of Essential Services, however, as commissioners want General Practice to routinely deliver this service it will need to be commissioned locally.

We have made it clear to NHSE that the current £10.06 IoS fee is not economically viable for practices and should be substantially uplifted. Whilst GPCE advise practices to deliver immunisation programmes included within Essential Services, it strongly recommends carefully reviewing the appropriateness of participating in any other non-core contract programme, if this were to be offered, where a £10.06 IoS fee [or less, such as Covid-19 concurrent with seasonal flu, when the fee is £7.54] is offered.

A new RGV PGD template will be developed by UKHSA, available from the PGD collection **here**. Detailed clinical guidance on RSV and RSV vaccination is expected imminently within Chapter 27a of the Green Book. Both professional and public facing information materials are available **here**.

SAVE THE DATE 16 and 17 July: Safe Working Guidance webinars

Following the roadshow feedback, the **BMA Safe Working Guidance** is being refreshed - join us at these BMA / Practice Manager Association webinars to hear practical examples in how this can support practices in managing their workload. This is your opportunity to Protect Your Patients and Protect Your Practice. Please join with your practice management teams.

Speakers

Dr Samira Anane, GP in Manchester, Vice Chair of Manchester LMC and Deputy Chair of GPC England Denise Smith, Practice Manager - Merepark Medical Centre in Cheshire, Fellow of the Practice Managers' Association

- 16 July 19.30 to 21.00: BMA/Practice Manager Association
- 17 July 12.30pm to 1.30pm: Practice Manage Association/ BMA Safe Working Guidance

Cervical Screening Managment System (CSMS)

The **CSMS** has gone live, replacing the previous Open Exeter call/recall IT system. The CSMS is accessed via an NHS smartcard. All providers are asked to update any internal operating procedures and documentation that supports delivery of cervical screening services, to reflect access to and how CSMS should be used. GP

Practices should log on and review the notification section to check that the contact email details for Prior Notification Lists (PNLs) are correct (click on 'manage email' within 'notifications'). If incorrect, amend on CSMS, ensuring it's a generic email contact address and the details of any patients due to be invited and action accordingly. For any technical support with using or accessing CSMS please visit: **CSAS**

SP & ACP EDUCATION PROGRAMME Occupational Health

Tuesday 16 July June 2024, 19:00-20:30, via Zoom

For our next GP& ACP session we'll be joined by Dr Sisi Chen to talk Occupational Health – managing prolonged sickness, how to use the 'may be fit for work' note and how doctors look after their own health. **Click here** to book your place. You can also find future dates in the programme on our web page **here**.

>>> Mid-Career Development Funding

PETERBOROUGH

Are you a mid-career GP who would like to explore a special interest in study as you progress through your career? We are now delighted to support you with mid-career development funding. We are also keen to hear from those who would be willing to mentor others as part of this opportunity. **Click here** for more information.

>>> Supporting Future Educators

From April 2024 NHSE have launched a new aspiring educator pathway. If you are interested in becoming a GP Educator, our Autumn Supporting Future Educators programme will guide you through the blended learning. **Click here** for more information.

>>> CPTH Fellowship for Newly Qualified GPs

Building on the success of the NHSE programme, our new 18-month CPTH Fellowship for Newly Qualified GPs is designed to support the transition from VTS to an established, salaried GP working in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Cohort 1 commences on 2nd September 2024 and applications close on 23rd August 2024. **Click here** for more information and to apply.

>>>> CPTH Preceptorship for newly qualified nurses

Our new CPTH Preceptorship for newly qualified nurses is a 24-month programme of funded CPD time, education, mentoring and peer support, designed to support the transition and integration into the workplace following completion of study. Cohort 1 commences on 1st October 2024 and applications close on 16th September. **Click here** for more information and to apply.

>>>> Leadership Development Fund

Are you looking to develop your leadership skills? The Training Hub has a Leadership Development Fund available for those who are in or enroute to a leadership role in practice of up to £800 per person. If you are interested in knowing more visit our **web page here**.

>>>> Student nurses will be qualifying soon

Final year student nurses gaining experience in General Practice are keen to secure roles in General Practice when they qualify in July. Please contact Kathryn Cayley, Training Hub Lead Nurse **kcaley@nhs.net** if you have any positions to fill. The Training Hub provides ongoing support to Practices employing Newly Qualified Nurses including our new Preceptorship scheme.

>>>> Please share with your nursing teams

We have a small team of Professional Nurse Advocates (PNAs) available for restorative clinical supervision, career conversations or improvement project support. Please see our **webpage**, for further details.

Sign up to receive our updates

Anyone can request to receive our newsletters and updates.

C&P Locum GPs can request to join our locum mailing list.

C&P GPs and Practice Managers can request to join the LMC Link mailing list.

Email us to enquire: office@cambslmc.org

Support and signposting

Cambs LMC is always here to represent, support and advise GPs and their practice teams in a safe, confidential space if you are struggling or in distress. We actively encourage you to reach out to us. Visit our **website** for more information or snap the QR code:



GPAS

Audit and submit your alert state before 17:00pm on Thursdays each week: https://cambslmc.org/gpas/

Vacancies in General Practice

We advertise any roles in General Practice on our website: https://cambslmc.org/jobs/. This remains a free service to our constituent practices in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough. To advertise a vacancy in your practice, please email us the details, including the closing date and any supporting documents in to office@cambslmc.org.

Practices seeking GP Locums - We continue to forward any GP Locum availability you might have to our locum mailing list. When sending requests to **office@cambslmc.org** to forward on, please remember to include a short synopsis of your practice in your requests i.e. where you are, what clinical system you use and relevant contact information.

Remote GP Locum sessions - If you have roles which could be undertaken remotely – why not advertise these too? Attract GPs from across the country, and rather than working for other companies, they could work for you, and get NHS pension contributions and instant messaging with senior GPs to support.

BMA Wellbeing



View BMA wellbeing support services page here:

https://www.bma.org.uk/advice-and-support/yourwellbeing

A range of wellbeing and support services are available to doctors, including 24/7 confidential counselling and peer support services, NHS practitioner health service and nonmedical support services such as Samaritans. Doctors in Distress also provides mental health support for health workers in the UK, providing confidential peer support.

See their **poster** with 10 tips to help maintain and support the wellbeing of you and your colleagues.

LMC Office Staff:

Dr Katie Bramall-Stainer – Chief Executive Alice Benton – Interim Chief Operating Officer Dr James Booth – Medical Director Emma Drew – Executive Officer Suzy Stoodley – Executive Officer Molly Collison - Administrator

Find us: The Officers' Mess Business Centre Royston Road, Duxford, Cambridge, CB22 4QH

BMA Guidance Links

Practical guidance for GP practices Safe working in General Practice Latest GP Bulletin (England) Latest Sessional GPs update Latest on X/Twitter: @BMA_GP and @TheBMA

PCSE Guidance Links	Guidance Pages Monthly Updates Youtube
CQC Guidance Links	Guidance for GPs Youtube GP Mythbusters

LMC Committee Officers: Dr Diana Hunter - Chair Dr James Howard - Vice-Chair Dr Francesca Frame - Treasurer

> Contact us: email: office@cambslmc.org website: www.cambslmc.org phone: 01223 919845 X/Twitter: @CambsLMC