

Newsletter

April 2023

Sheffield
LMC



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WORKFORCE RETURNS

Following some exploratory work within the General Practitioners Committee (GPC), it has become evident that the workforce returns that each practice submits may no longer be accurate given the increased work GPs have been doing since the pandemic. The GPC has issued a reminder to practices to ensure their submitted workforce returns accurately match the work being done by partners and salaried doctors. It helps the GPC in negotiations to be able to evidence that GPs are working longer hours to provide the care their patients need.

Returns for each GP are filed in hours per week and should reflect the work being done each week, during a normal week when not on leave. It is important that returns reflect the actual hours worked, not an estimate based on nominal sessions planned. All work done over the course of a week in providing NHS services should be counted, remembering to include work done at home.

The salaried model contract references 4 hours per week of CPD on an annualised basis and, therefore, this is to be considered working time. If a salaried GP has an annualised CPD allowance included in their contract, the equivalent hours per week should be added to the reported hours for the return.

If a salaried GP's contracted hours happen to be fewer than the hours actually worked, then aside from a conversation about how the contract might be updated to reflect this work, recording the actual hours worked will be beneficial to the profession in showing to government exactly how much work is being done.

Once processed, the returns are published monthly [here](#).

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LMC BUYING GROUP MEMBERSHIP: REMINDER

The LMC Buying Group helps GP practices save money on products and services they regularly buy. The Buying Group has negotiated excellent discounts on a wide range of products and services from their approved suppliers.

Buying Group membership is completely free and there is no compulsion to use all the suppliers. They do the hard work associated with finding the most competitive suppliers in cost and customer service, so they save you time as well as money on your purchasing.

Although the Buying Group was originally set up to help GP practices save money on the products and services they regularly buy, membership is now also open to GP Federations and Primary Care Networks.

Why use the Buying Group?

- No membership fees.
- Excellent negotiated discounts from a range of suppliers.
- Quality products and services.
- Free cost analysis for members.

- No need to ‘shop around’ anymore - we’ve done the hard work already!
- Access to a recruitment platform to advertise your clinical and non-clinical roles for free and a premium ‘Featured Job’ package for a small fee.
- Access to a community resource hub.

If you are not sure whether you are a member and/or have access to the Buying Group website (this is where you can view the pricing/discounts and get quotes) then contact the Buying Group team on 0115 979 6910 or info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk. They can also help you with any questions you might have about your membership or the suppliers.

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RECOMMENDED SUMMARY PLAN FOR EMERGENCY CARE AND TREATMENT (RESPECT)

*Update from Victoria Bartley and Charlotte Jenkins,
Citywide Project Manager and Support Officer for ReSPECT*

What is ReSPECT?: ReSPECT is a process that creates personalised recommendations for a person’s clinical care in emergency situations in which they are not able to decide for themselves or communicate their wishes. Anyone may have a ReSPECT plan, with increasing relevance for people with particular needs – Long Term Conditions (LTCs), End of Life Care (EOLC), nearing end of life, or any other reason. From 2 May 2023, ReSPECT plans will be replacing DNACPR forms in Sheffield, remembering that ReSPECT plans include other recommendations as well as CPR. Some patients may have a ReSPECT plan and be for resuscitation. ReSPECT plans are NOT a legal document (similar to how DNACPR forms are also not legal documents).

How will ReSPECT work in Primary Care?: ReSPECT plans will allow Primary Care clinicians to document the conversations you currently have with your patient and / or family members and carers, when you ask them ‘What Matters To You’ and your clinical recommendations regarding emergency situations into one, nationally recognised document.

From 2 May 2023, the ask is that:

- No new DNACPR forms to be filled in.
- ReSPECT plan completed on SystmOne / Ardens templates / EMIS and printed off for the patient.
- When completing ReSPECT plan, ensure patient has 2 codes - ‘has ReSPECT’ and either for resus / not for resus.

How will ReSPECT work across the rest of Sheffield?: There has been a citywide agreement at Health & Care Partnership level to implement ReSPECT across Sheffield from 2 May 2023. Current plans for transfer of ReSPECT information in and out of Primary Care:

- Send ReSPECT plan to Sheffield GP Collaborative (same process as a Special Note). You can send it with or without a Special Note.
- The GP Collaborative will share ReSPECT plan with Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS) when they add it to their patient system.
- Follow other current processes and pathways to share documents including ReSPECT plans with other organisations.
- Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STHFT) will include information on their discharge summary if ReSPECT plan has been completed in Secondary Care. This will include the resuscitation recommendation and details for section 4 of the plan - if the recommendations are to prioritise extending life, prioritise comfort or a balance of both.
- It has been agreed that:
 - ReSPECT version 3 plans can be completed digitally or by hand and in colour or black & white.
 - Wet signatures, digital signatures and typed names along with General Medical Council (GMC) / Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) / Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) number are all accepted and considered ‘valid’.

Useful links:

- [Citywide policy](#)
- [PDF ReSPECT plan](#)
- [Citywide website for more information](#)
- [Optional training module](#)

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DEPARTMENT FOR WORK AND PENSIONS (DWP) SPECIAL RULES UPDATE

From 3 April 2023, individuals who are likely to have less than 12 months to live can make a fast-tracked claim via the [Special Rules](#) for the following benefits (for which they are eligible):

- Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Attendance Allowance (AA)
- Universal Credit (UC)
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children

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HRT PRE-PAYMENT CERTIFICATE (PPC) GUIDANCE

The government introduced a policy from 1 April 2023 to support patients having menopausal symptoms with the cost of treatment. Patients who are not already exempt from NHS prescription charges will be able to purchase an [annual HRT Pre-Payment Certificate](#) for the cost of two single prescription charges - £19.60. This will only be valid for HRT preparations published in the [Drug tariff Part XVI](#). These drugs can be prescribed for any clinical reason and still qualify for the HRT PPC.

The amended regulations require the script for HRT be issued separately from non-HRT items (whether paper or EPS). The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) supports the decision to make HRT medicines more accessible to patients at reduced cost, but considers the introduction of this new prepayment certificate, specifically for HRT medicines, too complex. They have noted disappointment that despite their advice, the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has decided to proceed before the IT for automatic separation of prescriptions is ready, in contravention of the bureaucracy concordat, which the DHSC agreed to a year ago. From 1 April, new FP10s will be introduced with a box 'w' for HRT PPC, but old stock can continue to be used with the patient selecting box 'f' general PPC and the dispenser checking for valid HRT PPC.

When applying for the HRT PPC patients will be advised that they must inform the practice / prescriber that they hold an HRT PPC and ask that the script be issued separately.

Pharmacy contractors and dispensaries may:

1. Refuse to dispense a 'mixed' prescription presented by a patient - refuse to dispense both the listed HRT medicine and the other non-HRT item - and ask the patient to return to the GP for 2 separate prescriptions, or;
2. Dispense the listed HRT medicine, or dispense the other non-HRT item(s) with the prescription charge(s) paid (this may be appropriate if the patient has an urgent clinical need for the listed HRT medicine or non-HRT item) and the patient will need to obtain another prescription for any items not dispensed, or;
3. Dispense both the listed HRT medicine and the non-HRT item(s) and complete an FP57 refund form for the listed HRT medicine (there is a charge and refund for the HRT medicines, so no money changes hands) and take a prescription charge for the non-HRT item(s).

The patient can choose to apply for an HRT PPC backdated for up to 1 month. If they have not yet applied the pharmacy can issue a FP57 refund form. Patients who already have a valid 3 or 12-month pre-payment certificate for all their prescriptions will not need an HRT PPC. For patients that are stable on HRT the GPC recommends issuing via repeat dispensing at review, with one authorisation to cover a 12-month period, thus ensuring HRT is issued on a separate prescription.

The items included all contain oestrogen / progestogen or both as listed in [DHSC guidance](#). Other medications sometimes used in menopause are not included and would need to be paid for as normal. For further information and guidance for dispensaries see [the full DHSC guidance](#).

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TRAILBLAZER GP SCHEME YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER 2023/24

*Information provided by Dr Rachel Steen,
GP Trailblazer Scheme National Lead*

In Yorkshire and Humber, practices whose populations experience high levels of socioeconomic deprivation can apply for the [Trailblazer scheme](#), with a programme of learning, coaching and professional development and support delivered in association with Fairhealth. Please follow this [link](#) to apply and for more information for potential practices.

Please note that the deadline for post-CCT Fellowship Scheme 2023/24 applications is **midnight on 16 April 2023**.

Any questions please email Dr Julie Duodu, Yorkshire & Humber Scheme Lead jduodu@nhs.net or Dr Rachel Steen, National Scheme Lead rachel.steen@nhs.net.

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CAMERON FUND NEWSLETTER: SPRING 2023

The Cameron Fund provides help and support solely to GPs, including those who are retired, and their dependants. It aims to meet needs that vary considerably, from the elderly in nursing homes to young, chronically sick doctors and their families, and those suffering from unexpected and unpredictable problems such as relationship breakdown or financial difficulties following the actions of professional regulatory bodies. Careful consideration is given to the help most needed, which could be advice, a grant or a loan.

The Fund's [Spring 2023 newsletter](#) covers a number of topics such as:

- News from the Chair
- Building Financial Resilience
- BMA Giving Grant
- How you can support us

If you know of colleagues who may need help from the Cameron Fund please encourage them to contact the Fund. More information on how to contact the Cameron Fund, the support they can offer and how to donate can be found [here](#).

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**SESSIONAL GPs E-NEWSLETTER:
APRIL 2023**

The latest edition of the Sessional GPs e-newsletter can be found on the British Medical Association (BMA) website [here](#). The main articles include:

- DDRB submission – a Scottish perspective
- The Locum Container – 10 Top Tips
- LMC Secretaries conference
- Workforce returns
- Enhanced shared parental leave for Salaried GPs

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Please forward any articles for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to
manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk

Submission deadlines can be found [here](#)

Contact details for Sheffield LMC Executive can be found [here](#)
Contact details for Sheffield LMC Secretariat can be found [here](#)



Sheffield LMC's free peer to peer mentoring, coaching and signposting for General Practice. GP-S is free and open to all represented Sheffield GPs. More information can be found [here](#).