

Newsletter

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Sheffield
LMC



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PARTNERSHIP CHANGES: DOCUMENTATION TO BE UPDATED

The LMC's guidance *Partnership Changes on a Page* has recently been updated, and can be accessed [here](#).

The guidance notes the main documentation that should be reviewed as part of a successful change in partnership, whether through a retirement, appointment a new partner or a practice merger, which includes:

- The Partnership Agreement
- Land Registry
- NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
- Care Quality Commission
- Accountants
- Lease or Mortgage
- NHS England
- Primary Care Support England
- New Partners
- Bank

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PROVISION OF PINK CARD TEMPLATES

Agreement was reached some time ago regarding GPs not being required to complete pink cards. As cases of community nurses refusing to accept anything other than a pink card are still being reported to the LMC office, we sought assistance from Sarah Alton, Head of Medicines Management, Community Based Services at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (STHFT). Sarah has kindly requested that the following message is cascaded to STHFT community nursing teams:

Sheffield GPs can now create a template of a pink card from their clinical systems using a software system called Ardens. It has been agreed that this Ardens template can be used as a source of information to transcribe onto the pink card in line with the community services transcribing procedure.

A mock- up of the template is attached above for reference. The template itself cannot be used in place of a pink card. If you receive this from a GP practice, please transcribe the information from the template onto a pink card and use in the usual way.

We recognise the future need for an electronic system and will continue to look into this, however this has not been progressed yet due to impending changes with Lorenzo.

In the meantime, if you have any issues or queries regarding the ARDENS template please let me know.

If any practices continue to encounter difficulties in this regard, please send details of the specific case (without patient identifiable information) to manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

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ARE YOU MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR LMC BUYING GROUP MEMBERSHIP?

*Article provided by Ashleigh Beer, Business Support Officer, **Plexus Support Services***

When was the last time you reviewed how much your practice is spending on the products and services you regularly buy?

The cost-of-living crisis is really starting to bite and even GP practices will be looking for ways to reduce running costs.

This is where your free membership of the LMC Buying Group can really come in handy, as it offers practices access to discounts on a wide range of products and services. They can help you save money on the following areas:

- Medical consumables and equipment
- Insurance
- Recovery Oxygen
- Test and Calibration
- Stationery, Office equipment and furniture
- Confidential information shredding
- Trade Waste Management
- Online Training
- Workwear
- Energy
- Telecoms
- DBS Checks Processing

The Buying Group suppliers will not just offer you a great price one week and then ramp up the price the next, so you can be assured that if you order from their suppliers, you will get a great price every time you shop, meaning you do not have to 'shop around' to find the best deal every month anymore.

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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PRACTICE AND PRIMARY CARE NETWORK (PCN) INCOME READY RECKONER 2023/24

NHS England has updated the [ready reckoner](#) originally agreed at the start of the 2019-24 contract framework. It is intended to provide an indication of the changes in income streams that may affect a General Medical Services (GMS) practice and PCN from 1 April 2023. Figures are indicative, however, and do not provide a guarantee of income.

Any questions or queries about the ready reckoner should be directed to info.gpc@bma.org.uk.

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AMENDMENT TO ANNUAL FLU LETTER 2023/24

Further to the article in the [June LMC newsletter](#), the government has confirmed an amendment to the [annual flu letter 2023/24](#). It outlines the addition of secondary school children in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 to the programme. This includes those that are home-schooled and other children not in mainstream education.

Providers should ensure they commence vaccinations as early as possible after the flu vaccine becomes available and complete by 15 December in line with the other school aged cohorts already announced.

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ACCELERATED ACCESS TO RECORDS

Further to the article in the [June LMC newsletter](#), we have received the following update from General Practitioners Committee (GPC) England:

GPC England continues to challenge the government on the accelerated access programme which is intent on compelling GPs to give all patients access online to their GP-held medical record before GPs and patients are ready. GPC is particularly concerned about harm being caused to patients through patients accessing their medical records and seeing new information about their health prematurely, for example, a diagnosis of lung cancer prior to it being discussed with the doctor.

GPC needs your help. If you are aware of any examples of this happening in your practice or in a practice in your area, please can you get in touch urgently and provide details of the incident. This information will be invaluable in enabling us to substantiate our concerns with real examples. The information can be anonymised and provided anonymously if that is preferred. Please write to info.gpc@bma.org.uk or mark.coley@nhs.net if you wish to keep details within the NHSmail system.

It would be particularly useful to hear from practices that went live with the accelerated access programme and whether any harms caused through the release of information occurred with patients who hadn't initially asked for access, but had been granted it as part of the accelerated access programme. If it was felt the inappropriate or early release of information occurred due to a failure in redaction capabilities (or an oversight due to lack of training) it would be useful to know that too.

Current guidance from the BMA can be found [here](#).

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ADOPTION AND GENDER REASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

Following receipt of a number of enquiries from GP practice staff about adoption and gender reassignment in relation to the patient registration process, Primary Care Support England (PCSE) has collated some Q&As as follows:

- [Adoption Q&As](#)
- [Gender Reassignment Q&As](#)

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CHANGE TO THE CORONIAL REFERRAL PROCESS

Further to the article in the [June LMC newsletter](#), Mrs Tanyka Rawden, HM Senior Coroner, South Yorkshire (West) is distributing a letter to all GPs across her jurisdiction giving further details. The content of the letter is as follows:

The referral portal

I am writing to advise you about a forthcoming change to the way in which deaths are referred to me.

The current system is that all referrals are received via email and the details from that email are inputted into my case management system by a coroner's officer.

A recent review has identified that 3,483 hours are spent per annum inputting death referrals into my case management system. This equates to losing almost two investigative officers per week to this administrative task.

You may be aware that there have been significant delays in investigating deaths referred to me recently. This causes distress to the bereaved, the potential of lost evidence, and capacity issues in local mortuaries.

In order to improve the service we provide to the bereaved and ensure our resources are used effectively, from 9 October 2023 all referrals to me will be made via a website referral portal. Referrals can be made via the portal before this date, but referrals will only be accepted via the portal from 9 October 2023.

The portal is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. You are able to save or download the information inputted should you need a copy of the referral for your records.

You will be provided with a step by step guide to assist you in making a referral along with a unique code for your profession by the end of July 2023.

You will also be provided with an email address to contact should you have any difficulties with the referral.

If you have any questions about the referral portal at this stage, please direct them to: MLCAdmin@sheffield.gov.uk.

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STATEMENT ON THE PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR PROPOSAL

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has issued a [statement](#) in response to proposals from the General Medical Council (GMC) and NHS England (NHSE) for regulatory change and the creation of a "primary care doctor".

The GPC does not believe that general practice currently has the staff, financial or premises resources to accommodate an intake of "primary care doctors", nor do they believe that the proposals are being designed to benefit doctors who want to make the switch into primary care.

The statement outlines their concerns with the different ways in which "primary care doctors" could be introduced.

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CALL TO ACTION FOR GENERAL PRACTICE

General Practitioners Committee (GPC) England has published a [Call to Action \(CTA\) for General Practice](#), which is their strategy for what is needed to provide high-quality care for patients, and which compiles what they want to see in the next round of contract negotiations, including:

- More investment in general practice to deliver better local, long-term care for patients.
- Safer, greener infrastructure to bring general practices into the 21st century and provide better care.
- More control to practices so they can work collaboratively at scale, while offering continuity of care.
- The necessary time to provide better quality care by removing unnecessary bureaucracy and box-ticking.
- Support with expanding the GP workforce to achieve the equivalent of at least 40k full-time, qualified GPs in post by 2030/31.

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BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (BMA) ANNUAL REPRESENTATIVE MEETING (ARM)

Earlier this month the BMA's ARM was held in Liverpool – an opportunity for discussion, debate and representation on behalf of the medical profession.

General Practitioners Committee (GPC) UK and its component committees, including GPC England has shared its [report](#) with the ARM, outlining its work to support and lobby on behalf of GPs this year.

Details of all the motions passed, along with some key speeches can be accessed [here](#).

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SESSIONAL GPs CONFERENCE

As noted in the [June LMC newsletter](#), the Sessional GPs Committee of the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) will be hosting a conference for members (free) and non-members (£75) across the UK on Friday 22 September 2023, 10 am to 5 pm at BMA House.

Further information on the content / key speakers and how to register can be found [here](#).

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PRIMARY CARE ACADEMIC COLLABORATIVE (PACT)

Article submitted by Ria Agarwal, Lead Physician Associate for Faculty for Advanced Clinical Practice, South Yorkshire

PACT is a UK-wide organisation for any individual working in primary care who would like to be part of a research community but is not necessarily able to access one through their current clinical networks or practice environment. It is an opportunity for anyone with interest and enthusiasm in primary care research to gain opportunities to be part of a larger scale research project, no matter how little experience they have. It creates opportunities for CPD as well as potential authorship, and uniting like-minded people. The team is especially keen to diversify the membership to the entire general practice team, and we would love for anyone working in primary care who wants to know more to join as a member (free of charge) and take a look at our updated [website](#).

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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](#).