

# Newsletter

## July 2024

Sheffield  
LMC



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**NAVIGATING THE RECENT CHANGES TO THE 2024/25 GP CONTRACT IN ENGLAND: BMA FOCUS ON GUIDANCE**

**SAFE WORKING IN GENERAL PRACTICE**

**PATIENT FACING LEAFLET**

**PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY DATA**

**SHEFFIELD GENERAL PRACTICE PROVIDER FORUM UPDATE**

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

**GENDER IDENTITY TOOLKIT FOR GENERAL PRACTICE**

**CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES**

**SEASONAL FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME VACCINE**

**RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV): NEW NHS VACCINATION PROGRAMME**

**CERVICAL SCREENING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CSMS)**

**GP PARTNERSHIP SURVEY**

**BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (BMA) SESSIONAL GP CONFERENCE: DIVERSITY, OPPORTUNITY, SAFETY**

**SESSIONAL GPs E-NEWSLETTER: JUNE 2024**

**CAMERON FUND NEWSLETTER: SUMMER 2024**

**CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) MYTHBUSTERS**

### NAVIGATING THE RECENT CHANGES TO THE 2024/25 GP CONTRACT IN ENGLAND: BMA FOCUS ON GUIDANCE

The British Medical Association (BMA) has produced a series of *Focus on* guidance documents to assist practices navigate the recent changes to the 2024/25 GP contract in England. These were emailed to all represented Sheffield GPs and Practice Managers on Monday 24 June 2024, and can also be accessed via the links below:

- [Focus on dispensing and prescribing](#)
- [Focus on medical associate professions](#)
- [Focus on the use of enhanced access appointments](#)
- [Focus on proforma and referral forms](#)
- [Focus on spending and the PCN DES capacity and access payment funding](#)
- [Focus on GP data sharing and GP data controllership](#)
- [Focus on the 2024 premises costs directions](#)
- [Focus on vaccinations and immunisations](#)
- [Focus on limited liability partnerships and the GMS contract](#)

Please note, with regard to *Focus on GP data sharing and GP data controllership*, the EMIS paragraph should read ... *scroll down to the option Accept GP Connect Update Record via MESH and select No ....*"

-000-

### SAFE WORKING IN GENERAL PRACTICE

Given the current pressures in general practice and the imposed contract, the British Medical Association (BMA) produced a [Safe Working in General Practice](#) resource, which has recently been updated. The main topics covered are:

- Understanding expectations of the NHS England guidance.
- Unsafe working contacts
- Patient Participation Groups (PPGs)
- External un-resourced workload
- Practice list closure
- Managing workload as a salaried GP
- Advice and Guidance
- Primary Care Network (PCN) Directed Enhanced Service (DES)
- Waiting lists
- Measurement of workload
- 'Core' general practice
- Workload prioritisation
- Managing workload as a locum GP
- Appointments

- General Practitioners Committee (GPC) England's position on the planned COVID vaccination programme
- GPC England's position on the seasonal flu programme 2024/25

In addition, following feedback at the recent roadshows, BMA/Practice Manager Association Safe Working Guidance webinars have been scheduled for Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 July, to share practical examples of how this can support practices in managing their workload:

- [16 July 19.30 to 21.00 hrs](#)
- [17 July 12.30 to 13.30 hrs](#)

-OOO-

### **PATIENT FACING LEAFLET**

In view of concerns raised with the LMC about the potential (negative) impact of data that will be collected from digital telephony data after October 2024, we issued an update to all represented Sheffield GPs and Practice Managers on 24 June 2024. As noted, we continue to inform commissioners that the problem with waiting times for GP appointments and telephone calls is not "Access" but "Capacity".

In an attempt to pre-empt some of the questions you might receive from patients, we circulated a patient-facing leaflet that can be displayed with the practice header in your waiting room. This is now also available to download from our website [here](#).

-OOO-

### **PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY DATA**

We are grateful to Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire LMC for collating parliamentary constituency data from NHS Digital sources. Data is available for general practices in the 5 Sheffield Parliamentary Constituencies relating to changes in population and staffing affecting delivery of general practice services. It compares the changes affecting general practice services between 2014 and 2024 and can be accessed [here](#) - select "Region" (Yorkshire and the Humber) and "Parliamentary Constituency" (scroll down to select a Sheffield constituency to view the local data).

We hope you find this helpful in highlighting many of the concerns raised by patients and staff, with the recognition that GPs are being asked to care for more and more patients whilst experiencing a decline in surgery and GP numbers over this timescale.

-OOO-

### **SHEFFIELD GENERAL PRACTICE PROVIDER FORUM UPDATE**

An update on the proposal for Sheffield to develop a General Practice Provider Forum was recently circulated to all represented Sheffield GPs and Practice Managers, and can be accessed [here](#). The plan is for an initial meeting of those involved to take place in early July, followed by monthly meetings from September. Updates on progress will be issued, and input will be sought through Locality Council meetings.

We look forward to working on topics important to Sheffield GPs and Practice Managers.

Alastair Bradley (Chair, Sheffield LMC)  
 Andy Hilton (CEO, PCS)  
 Tom Holdsworth (Chair, PCN Clinical Directors)  
 Nicky Normington (Locality Manager North)  
 Leigh Sorsbie (Chair, Sheffield Citywide Locality Group)

-OOO-

### **ARE YOU MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR BUYING GROUP MEMBERSHIP?**

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 continues to bite and even GP practices will be looking for ways to reduce running costs. This is where your free membership to 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
- Stationery, Office equipment and furniture
- Workwear
- Insurance
- Confidential information shredding
- Energy
- Recovery Oxygen
- Telecoms
- Test and Calibration

- Online Training

- DBS Checks Processing

The Buying Group suppliers won't 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'll get a great price every time you shop meaning you don't have to 'shop around' to find the best deal every month anymore.

If you're not sure whether you're 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](mailto:info@lmcbuyinggroups.co.uk). They can also help you with any questions you might have about your membership or the suppliers.

-000-

### **GENDER IDENTITY TOOLKIT FOR GENERAL PRACTICE**

A [Gender Identity Toolkit for General Practice](#) is available, which practices might find helpful, as it is designed to support general practice teams when providing care to trans and non-binary patients. The toolkit consolidates statutory requirements and best practice guidance into an easily implementable, procedural resource, as well as highlighting a range of common themes in trans and non-binary healthcare, from determining a suitable treatment pathway to updating a patient's name and/or gender marker.

The toolkit links to a variety of sources of information. Of particular note is the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) guidance [The role of the GP in transgender care](#).

-000-

### **CONTRACEPTIVE SERVICES**

Contraceptive services, formerly an Additional Service funded by an identified 2.4% of Global Sum, have been included as an Essential Service under the General Medical Services (GMS) / Personal Medical Services (PMS) contracts since 2020. This includes the treatment of and prescribing for patients for contraceptive services, with the specific exclusion of the "fitting and implanting of intrauterine devices and implants." In addition, [Para 14.2.1 of the Standard GMS contract](#) includes a reference to "drugs" including contraceptive substances and "appliances" as including contraceptive appliances. Therefore, General Practitioners Committee (GPC) England advises that the prescription and administration of contraceptive injections (such as Depo Provera, Sayana Press, and Noristerat) form part of Essential Services. Reimbursement is available through the Personally Administered drugs provisions in the Statement of Financial Entitlements and indemnity is available via the Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice (CNSGP).

-000-

### **SEASONAL FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME VACCINE**

Sanofi has advised that the Recombinant Quadrivalent Influenza vaccine [QIVr] will, due to a supply issue, not be available for the flu vaccination programme for the 2024/25 season. The original Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) recommendation was to use QIVr for adults aged 65 years and over, and also adults aged 16 to 64 who are in eligible groups. In the light of this change, NHS England has advised the following:

Aged 65 years and over	Aged 18 to 64 years in risk groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• adjuvanted quadrivalent influenza vaccine (aQIV)</li> <li>• high-dose quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIV-HD)</li> </ul> <p>The cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVc) can also be considered only when every attempt to use aQIV or QIV-HD has been exhausted – evidence of this may be requested by the commissioner before reimbursement is agreed.</p>	<p>Aged 18 to 59 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVc)</li> </ul> <p>Aged 60 to 64 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cell-based quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVc)</li> <li>• high-dose quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIV-HD)</li> </ul> <p>The egg-grown quadrivalent influenza vaccine (QIVe) can also be considered only when every attempt to use QIVc, or in the case of those aged 60 -64 years also QIV-HD, has been exhausted – evidence of this may be requested by the commissioner before reimbursement is agreed.</p>

As QIVr is only licensed for those aged 18 and over, this does not affect the immunisation programme for younger patients. For practices who have ordered QIVr, and who are participating in the 2024/25 immunisation programme, the primary alternative is QIV-HD [high dose quadrivalent influenza vaccine] which is licensed in the UK for those 60 and over. Otherwise, practices may seek to order additional supplies of aQIV [Adjuvanted Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine] for those aged 65 and over, and QIVc [Cell-based Quadrivalent Influenza Vaccine] for those under 65 years. NHSE has updated the [list of influenza vaccines marketed in the UK](#).

-000-

## **RESPIRATORY SYNCYTIAL VIRUS (RSV): NEW NHS VACCINATION PROGRAMME**

Following [recommendations by the JCVI](#), two new [RSV vaccination programmes](#) will begin from 1 September 2024:

- Adults aged 75 to 79 years old;
- Pregnant women to protect infants.

NHS England (NHSE) intends 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 General Practitioners Committee (GPC) England 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.

The GPC has made it clear to NHSE that the current £10.06 Item of Service (IoS) fee is not economically viable for practices, and should be substantially uplifted. Whilst the GPC advises 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 RSV Patient Group Direction (PGD) template will be developed by the UK Health Security Agency (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](#).

-000-

## **CERVICAL SCREENING MANAGEMENT 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 is a generic email contact address.
- The details of any patients due to be invited and action accordingly.

For any technical support with using or accessing CSMS please visit CSMS help [here](#).

-000-

## **GP PARTNERSHIP SURVEY**

*Article submitted by Esme Lawy, Sheffield GP*

The South Yorkshire Workforce and Training Hub, in collaboration with local LMCs, is keen to find out how many GPs are thinking about GP partnership. We want to understand what the concerns and barriers are, and if we might be able to help with overcoming these. We are asking any qualified GPs who are not already GP partners and ST3 trainees in South Yorkshire to [complete this questionnaire](#), so that we can work out how best to help.

Thank you.

-000-

## **BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (BMA) SESSIONAL GP CONFERENCE: DIVERSITY, OPPORTUNITY, SAFETY**

*A one-day conference specifically for sessional GPs / Free for BMA members / Fees apply for non-members*

Friday 20 September 2024 - 9.30 am to 4.30 pm  
BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JP

In person attendance at BMA House will offer a range of networking opportunities, with refreshments and lunch provided. Remote attendance is also available. The aim of the event is to give information and updates on topical issues. Breakout groups will provide practical advice and guidance on a choice of topics in smaller groups:

- Pensions for sessional GPs
- How to set up in private practice
- Responding to performance concerns
- Working in out of hours and urgent care settings
- Digital remote roles for GPs
- Working with a disability

Further information, including how to register, can be found [here](#).

-000-

### **SESSIONAL GPs E-NEWSLETTER: JUNE 2024**

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

- Future vision for Sessional GPs
- Office 365 licenses for locums
- Leadership essentials
- Empowering sessional GPs
- Promotion of rate card
- OOH and holiday pay advice
- Locum GP survey results
- Private practice conference

-000-

### **CAMERON FUND NEWSLETTER: SUMMER 2024**

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. The Fund's Summer 2024 newsletter, which can be accessed [here](#), covers a number of topics such as:

- News from the Chair
- New website and membership section
- How you can support us
- Introducing our new trustees

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](#).

-000-

### **CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) MYTHBUSTERS**

CQC National Clinical Advisors and Policy Team issue [guidance](#) to clear up some common myths about CQC inspections, as well as sharing guidance on best practice, which practices may wish to be aware of. The following mythbusters have been added or updated in recent weeks:

- [GP Mythbuster 82: Physician associates in General Practice](#) (10 June 2024)
- [GP Mythbuster 53: Care of people with a learning disability in GP practices](#) (18 June 2024)
- [GP Mythbuster 104: Cervical Screening](#) (19 June 2024)
- [GP Mythbuster 26: General Practice Nurses](#) (24 June 2024)
- [GP Mythbuster 61: Patient registration](#) (1 July 2024)

-000-

Please forward any articles for inclusion in the LMC newsletter to [manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk](mailto: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](#).