

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham, Tameside and Glossop

January 2024 UPDATE FROM YOUR LMC



Dr Amir Hannan, Chair



Dr Alan Dow, Secretary



Dr Andrew Vance, Vice Chair



Jane Hill, LMC Liaison Officer/
GP Practice Data Protection Officer

Happy New Year from your LMC!

We hope you managed to get a well-deserved break over the Christmas period.

West Pennine LMC meeting – Tuesday 9th January 2024

The committee met on Tuesday 9th January via Teams. GMMMG (Greater Manchester Medicines Management Group) and shared care protocols were discussed. There is concern that it may not be a secondary care consultant that signs off these documents, for the hospital; are we suitably covered if it is a different role is signing. The Association of GM LMCs have requested a seat at the GMMMG meetings, in order to have more influence going forward. The ongoing issue of drug shortages and the additional work involved in offering alternative medication was discussed. An update on Dermatology provision was shared by Dr Amir Hannan. 2ww referrals are now being seen; other work is now being delivered by alternative providers who have long waiting lists. For practices in Glossopdale, there is currently no 2ndry care dermatology service available in the Tameside locality/GMICB (other than for 2ww Dermatology) and patients are now needing to travel as far as Sheffield and Chesterfield. Dr Alan Dow is in talks with Derbyshire ICB about this issue. Generally, there is concern over services moving out of Neighbourhood level provision for Glossop with dermatology at risk and echocardiography currently set to stop in January.

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CQC workshop – Thursday 8th February 2024

Antonia Parker from Lancashire and Cumbria Consortium of LMCs is set to lead a workshop for GPs, Practice Managers and Practice Nurses on Thursday 8th February from 1pm – 3pm, in the meeting room at Houghton Thornley Medical Centre, Thornley Street, Hyde, SK14 1JY. There will be a light lunch available at 12.30pm. Antonia will guide attendees through the requirements of the recently introduced Single Assessment Framework.

If you haven't already reserved your place, please contact the LMC office at westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

CQC support

The West Pennine LMC are very aware of how stressful the CQC inspection process can be for Practice staff, both before and after an inspection. We can offer support by coming out to your practice building and reviewing your policies and protocols with you. If you feel this would be of benefit to your practice team, please do not hesitate to contact us at westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

GP Survey



The BMA have recently published a GP survey and it would be very much appreciated if you could put some time aside to complete it. The link to the survey is here:

<https://www.research.net/r/bmagp23>

Dr Katie Bramall-Stainer, chair of BMA-GPC England, stressed the importance of the survey, *“With negotiations for the next GP contract now underway, we have an opportunity to make some real changes for GPs, their teams, and how we contractualise patient care more flexibly. This survey is crucial in helping us present the strongest current evidence in these negotiations and determine what GPs on the frontline want out of their contract and career beyond this Parliament.”*

The survey will remain open until 21st January 2024. If you only complete one survey- this is the one!

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Best Practice Conference – Olympia, London

The Best Practice conference is set to take place on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th February at Olympia, London and you are welcome to attend for all or just some of it. The conference is a free event, which offers accredited CPD content, with keynote speakers, clinical education, business advice and more...

For full information and to register please click here:

<https://www.bestpracticelondon.co.uk/lp-lan-2024>

GP Forum study day – Manchester

GP Forum are hosting a study day in Manchester on Wednesday 6th March. I have attached their flyer with full details of the event. If you are interested in attending, please contact info@gpforum.com

BMA Template letters re inappropriate workload

We are aware that our local hospitals continue to sometimes make inappropriate workload requests. You may wish to respond using one of the following BMA template Letters:

[Pushing back on inappropriate workload \(bma.org.uk\)](https://www.bma.org.uk/pushing-back-on-inappropriate-workload)

Data Protection Office Update

Data Protection training

In 2024, I will continue to deliver Data Protection training sessions for GP practice teams. If you think your team would benefit from a short F2F session, I am happy to come out to your practice to support you with this.

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A reminder about managing request for deceased patient data

Since August 2022, practices are no longer required to print off electronic records and return them to PCSE and the responsibility for managing requests for access to deceased patient data now lies with the practice. The deceased don't come into the scope of the Data Protection legislation; however, you do of course continue to hold a Duty of Confidentiality to the deceased patient.

We need to refer to The Access to Health Records Act (AHRA) 1990, which provides certain individuals with a right of access to the health records of a deceased individual. These individuals are defined under Section 3(1)(f) of that Act as, *'the patient's personal representative and any person who may have a claim arising out of the patient's death'*.

[Access to Health Records Act 1990 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://legislation.gov.uk)

As with any data sharing, you should only share the minimum amount of data, and please be mindful that the following information must be withheld:

- * 3rd Party information, except those who were involved in the deceased's healthcare
- * Information that may cause serious physical or mental harm to someone else
- * Information that the patient may not have wanted to share with others

If no entries, additions or amendments have been made to the record in the 40 calendar days prior to the date of application, you have [21 calendar days](#) from the date of receiving the request to either grant or refuse the request to access the deceased person's record.

If entries, additions or amendments have been made to the record in the 40 calendar days prior to the date of application, you have [40 calendar days](#) from the date of receiving the request to either grant or refuse the request to access the deceased person's record.

If you wish to discuss any Data Protection concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07951 530 417 or Jane.hilldpo@nhs.net