



OPEL SUBMISSION COMMUNICATION FROM NHS SOUTH YORKSHIRE INTEGRATED CARE BOARD (ICB)

Like many of you, my practice received a demand from the ICB Primary Care Team to complete an OPEL submission by close of play on Wednesday 25 January 2023.

Sheffield LMC has been in discussion with Sheffield commissioners for a number of years about such a model, and more recently with the South Yorkshire ICB. We noted that completion of such a template is not contractual and the suggestion that ***"A submission is required weekly..."*** is unfounded.

The implementation of a reporting system is to help support practices where pressures are highest. We are aware that such templates can be time consuming to complete, but this can be worthwhile if support is offered. We had requested 2 criteria for a successful launch of such a tool:

1. That like the Doncaster pilot scheme, practices were incentivised to complete the template on a weekly basis, as this is otherwise non-contractual.
2. That there was a clear offer of support to practices, if identified as under pressure, before the scheme was implemented.

It is clear that neither of these have happened, and the LMC had not been informed of the imminent roll out of this template.

Practices may wish to complete this template on a voluntary basis as it has no contractual underpinning.

As our 2 criteria have not been met, it is not a scheme we can recommend in its current format.

DR ALASTAIR BRADLEY
Chair