

Newsletter

October 2022

Sheffield
LMC



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WELLBEING RESOURCES

FIREARMS MARKER AND FLAGGING SYSTEM

FLU VACCINATION: PRACTICE STAFF

NHS ENGLAND (NHSE) VACCINATION STRATEGY CONSULTATION

SALARIED AND LOCUM GP PAY SURVEY

IMPACT OF INFLATION AND ENERGY COSTS SURVEY

CAMERON FUND NEWSLETTER: AUTUMN 2022

CARE QUALITY COMMISSION (CQC) MYTHBUSTERS

SESSIONAL GPS E-NEWSLETTER: OCTOBER 2022

WELLBEING RESOURCES

The British Medical Association (BMA) has recently highlighted a range of wellbeing and support services available to doctors, encouraging anybody who is feeling under strain to seek support:

- BMA 24/7 confidential [counselling and peer support services](#);
- BMA [wellbeing support services page](#);
- [Samaritans](#);
- BMA [poster with 10 tips to help maintain and support the wellbeing](#);
- [NHS practitioner health service](#);
- [Doctors in Distress](#).

-000-

FIREARMS MARKER AND FLAGGING SYSTEM

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has been working with the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), Home Office, NHS Digital (NHSD) and Police Chiefs' Council to develop and roll out the firearms marker and flagging system following coroner instruction that this should be developed.

The current flagging system was initiated in April 2022. Soon after switch-on it was identified that the flag was not working as planned in EMIS. Therefore, the EMIS flag was switched off. The flag has continued to be used in TPP SystemOne.

NHSD has worked with EMIS to redesign the flag for EMIS and this is now ready to be tested. The GPC's Joint GP IT Committee will test the system, but the GPC is looking for practitioners who use EMIS who would be willing to work with NHSD to review the new flagging system. Any Sheffield EMIS GP practices interested in becoming involved in this piece of work can register an expression of interest by emailing manager@sheffieldlmc.org.uk.

The GPC continues to have concerns that the flagging system is not working as they anticipated in any of the systems and, therefore, continue to work with NHSD to design a better, safer, and less intrusive flagging system.

-000-

FLU VACCINATION: PRACTICE STAFF

NHS England (NHSE) has published an [updated flu specification](#), alongside updated guidance, which now covers vaccination of practice staff.

Whilst this will ensure that flu vaccinations provided to staff will be covered under the Clinical Negligence Scheme for General Practice (CNSGP), practice staff vaccination will still not be eligible for an Item of Service (IoS) payment or vaccine reimbursement for this year.

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) continues to push NHSE on this point.

-000-

NHS ENGLAND (NHSE) VACCINATION STRATEGY CONSULTATION

NHSE is seeking engagement from providers to inform the future shape of vaccination services and share views on ways in which NHSE can maximise uptake of vaccinations and reduce inequalities.

The original market engagement exercise has closed. However, as part of the same process, NHSE has also published an alternative [consultation page](#) on the proposed strategy, which remains open until **Thursday 13 October 2022**.

The General Practitioners Committee (GPC) believes that general practice remains the best route to engage with patients and encourage vaccine uptake across all GP based vaccination and immunisation programmes, and that any expansion of providers runs the risk of simply redistributing existing patients and undermining practice funding, rather than increasing uptake. Therefore, the GPC has made clear to NHSE that the key to meeting the aims of its strategy is to build upon and support existing practice based programmes. They will continue to engage with NHSE on their proposals and update as things progress.

-000-

SALARIED AND LOCUM GP PAY SURVEY

The Sessional GPs Committee of the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) has launched a survey to obtain data on pay for salaried GPs, in order to inform the Sessional GPs Committee's policy on what the DDRB's pay range should be, as the current range does not reflect reality.

The survey, which is open to all GPs:

- Will also collect data around locum pay rates, which will allow the Committee to create a heat-map of how rates vary across the country, to aid both locums and contractor GPs to agree appropriate rates.
- Includes a few questions on whether GPs compare themselves with other professions or different grades of doctors, which might be another way of testing whether the pay range is set at the right level.
- Can be accessed [here](#).
- Is to be completed by **18 October**.

-000-

IMPACT OF INFLATION AND ENERGY COSTS SURVEY

The British Medical Association (BMA) has compiled [a short survey](#) to collect evidence needed to advocate on behalf of general practice regarding the impact of inflation and energy costs on practices.

The survey asks for a range of information relating to practice costs including energy, staffing and other expenses.

Although the BMA is encouraging completion of the entire survey, if some information is not readily available, completion of all parts possible would be appreciated, in order to be able to hear from as many practices as possible, and being in a position to make a strong case to NHS England (NHSE), the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the government to seek solutions.

The closing date for the survey is **Thursday 20 October 2022**.

-000-

**CAMERON FUND NEWSLETTER:
AUTUMN 2022**

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 money advice, a grant or a loan.

The Fund's [Autumn 2022 newsletter](#) covers a number of topics such as:

- News from the Chair;
- Membership survey;
- 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 at: www.cameronfund.org.uk.

-oOo-

**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 recently:

- [GP mythbuster 1: Resuscitation in GP surgeries](#) (21 September 2022)
- [GP mythbuster 108: Involving and engaging with the patient population and local communities](#) (6 October 2022)

-oOo-

**SESSIONAL GPs E-NEWSLETTER:
OCTOBER 2022**

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

- New Sessional GPs Committee;
- The future of annualisation;
- General Practice is your oyster;
- Bank holiday arrangements for salaried GPs.

-oOo-

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](#)