

West Pennine Local Medical Committee

Supporting and representing GPs in Oldham, Tameside and Glossop

February 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

West Pennine LMC meeting – Tuesday - February 2024

The committee met on Tuesday 13th February via Teams. Representatives discussed the marked increase in measles infections and the associated challenges, including the recommendation that clinicians should be fit tested for FFP3 masks, something which is not currently funded. Mark Lowton, Tameside Practice Manager representative, flagged that there have been eleven suspected cases at his practice in Denton in the last week and, having sent off swabs to Tameside Hospital, only one result has been returned. The LMC has flagged this system failure with Manisha Kumar, GM ICB Clinical Lead and it is being dealt with as a matter of urgency. The committee went on to discuss the Medical Examiners programme and the fact that the draft regulations may become statutory requirements from April 1st, 2024. Mark Lowton, Tameside Practice Manager representative, flagged that the removal of the EMIS panic button, potentially leaves GPs and clinicians in a very vulnerable position. The LMC is to look into alternatives to the EMIS panic button and will also look into the possibility of hosting conflict resolution training for GPs and their teams.

Good News story!

Congratulations to the team at Quayside Medical Practice in Failsworth who have recently been nominated for the 2024 UK Small Business Awards in the “triumph over adversity” category. Dr Mark Wilshere and team have overcome many hurdles since the practice more than doubled in size when they took over the patient list from Failsworth Medical Practice in 2023.

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Measles

For any Measles cases in Oldham, GP teams are advised to contact the receiving ward/A&E and also the Infection Control Team at Oldham. The Infection Control Team number is 0161 627 8771.

Tameside's community Infection Prevention team can be contacted at infectionprevention@tgh.nhs.uk or via 0161 922 6000.

We have attached a "Think Measles" poster, measles swabbing guidance, and the measles policy for reference purposes.

BMA GP Committee update on the 2024/25 contract.

Dr Katie Bramall- Stainer, GPC Chair, has recently shared the following video clip, explaining some of the implications of the proposed 2024-5 contract:

<https://youtu.be/BOXv9qb-Kog?si=XLGUD-cCEIKjSO0X>

This is a crucial time for the GP profession and as negotiations continue at a national level, LMCs are setting up local "SOS GP" WhatsApp groups, with a view to quickly and efficiently cascading updates around this. We promise we won't bombard you with messages – it will be essential information only!

If you are a GP living or working in Oldham, Tameside & Glossop and you are happy to be added to this group, please do let Jane have your mobile phone number by emailing her on westpennine.lmc@nhs.net

Medical Examiners update

From April 2024, the current draft regulations regarding Medical Examiners may become a statutory requirement. As you will be aware, the Medical Examiners are to give additional scrutiny to the reporting process for non-coronial deaths.

[Medical examiners in England: draft regulations - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Some practices in the West Pennine footprint have already been engaging with the Medical Examiners office as they have rolled out their service on a pilot basis; from April 1st, 2024, it could become a requirement for all practices to engage with the process. We have attached updated guidance from the Oldham and the Tameside Medical Examiner offices. If you have any additional queries, the Lead Medical Examiner Officer for Tameside & Glossop is Lauren Cox: Lauren.Cox@tgh.nhs.uk and the Lead Medical Examiner Officer for Oldham is Joe Topping: joe.topping@nca.nhs.uk

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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

CQC workshop – Thursday 7th March 2024

Unfortunately, the CQC workshop which was arranged for February 8th had to be postponed due to heavy snow. The workshop will now take place on Thursday 7th March from 1pm – 3pm (lunch available from 12.30pm) in the meeting room at Haughton Thornley Medical Centre, Thornley Street, Hyde, SK14 1JY. Antonia Parker from Lancashire and Cumbria Consortium of LMCs will lead the workshop, which is aimed at GPs, Practice Managers and Practice Nurses, and will guide you 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

Best Practice Conference – Olympia, London

The Best Practice conference is set to take place on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th February at Olympia, London. 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

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Data Protection Office Update

Information sharing Gateway

GDPR Article 30 dictates that all Data Controllers should have an up-to-date R.O.P.A. (Register of Processing Activities). The Information Sharing Gateway is a useful toolkit for tracking the data flows in and out of your practice.

[Home Page - Information Sharing Gateway](#)

The following Data Processing Agreement for practices in Tameside has been added to the Information Sharing Gateway this month: DS013436 NDPP Engagement (Healthier You the National Diabetes Prevention Programme)

If you haven't already done so, it would be much appreciated if you could please log on to the ISG to sign off/ give data controller approval for the proposed initiative.

UK Caldicott Guardian Council training

The UK Caldicott Guardian Council have several training events for Caldicott Guardians in 2024. Please see the following link for further information:

[Events — UKCGC](#)

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 very happy to come out to your practice to support you with this.

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